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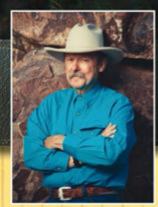










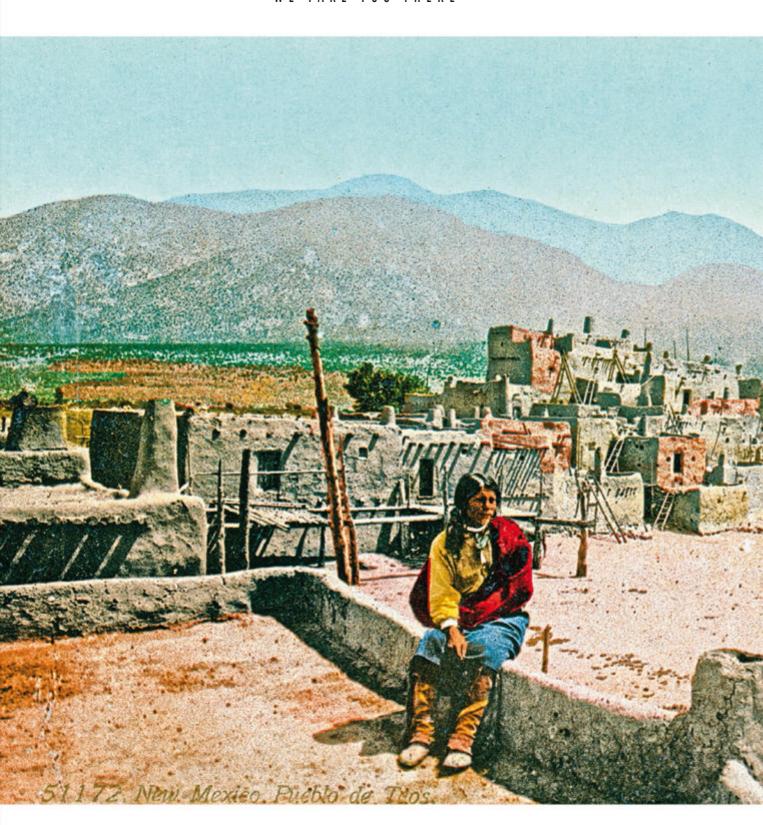


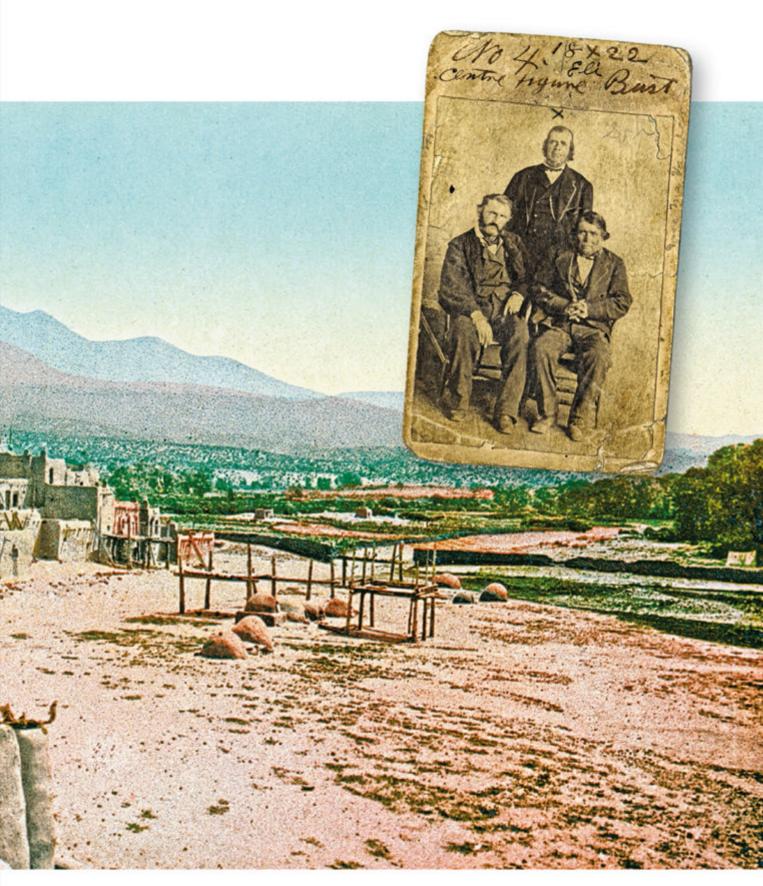
A true celebration of Colorado railroading and the Western lifestyle!

Events include 'An Evening of Outlaw Fun' with *True West* Magazine's own Bob Boze Bell! See the historic Rio Grande Southern Galloping Goose #4 and #5 ride the rails together again. Lots of fun and events August 13-16, 2015.

OPENING SHOT

WE TAKE YOU THERE





Taos Pueblo Revolt Trío

New Mexico's Palace of the Governors Photo Archives acquired its first original photograph of Ceran St. Vrain this year (above). The Santa Fe Trail trader and wheat magnate is seated at left in the circa 1865 carte de visite. The inset also shows Dick Wootton (standing) and José Maria Valdez (seated at right). All three men helped crush the rebellion of Mexicans and their Taos Pueblo allies in 1847. The Mexicans were angry because Gov. Manuel Armijo had surrendered the territory of New Mexico to U.S. military forces the previous August—without firing a single shot. The Mexican-American War ended with the signing of the Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo.



True West captures the spirit of the West with authenticity, personality and humor by providing a necessary link from our history to our present.

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August 2015 Online and Social Media Content



Before Tom "Black Jack" Ketchum lost his head, a photographer captured the noose being placed around his neck. Find this and more historical photography on our "Western Icons" board.

Pinterest.com/TrueWestMag







Go behind the scenes of *True West* with Bob Boze Bell to see this and more of his Daily Whipouts (search for "May 28, 2015").

Blog.TrueWestMagazine.com



Join the Conversation

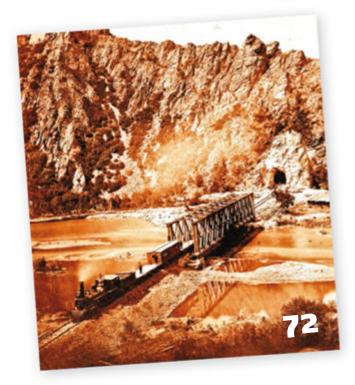
After seeing the photo of a freight wagon in Silver City, Idaho (shown): "Used to live in Owyhee County. Even today it's remote and sparsely populated. The road to Silver City was quite rough."

- Richard Gallagher, of Las Vegas, Nevada



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Luke Short's troubles brought about one of the American West's most famous photographs.

-By Jack DeMattos and Chuck Parsons

28 THE ALLEGED BASCOM AFFAIR

Why was Lt. George Bascom thrown under the wagon? -By Doug Hocking

34 SOLDIERS OF THE CROSS

The first Buffalo Soldier chaplain lit the path for others, despite a dishonorable discharge.

-By John Langellier

38 DISSING THE DALTONS

Learn the truth behind the mysterious bent pipe at the Dalton Gang grave in Coffeyville, Kansas.

-By Mark Boardman

72 ENGINEERING MARVELS OF THE WESTERN RAILROADS

Hi-line trestles, steep canyons and scenic wonders await the adventurous traveler on America's historic railways.

-By Michael Zimmer

Watch our videos!

Scanning your mobile device over any of the QR codes in this magazine to instantly stream original *True West*

videos or be transported to our websites.





Cover design by Dan Harshberger





















YOUR WITNESS

I just read Frederick Nolan's *TWMag.com* article, "The Birth of an Outlaw," and applaud the magazine's doggedness. It's great to see some truly original research on Billy the Kid for a change.

Regarding one Harvey Edmonds: I've got him in the 1885 New Mexico state census as a 55-year-old, Connecticut-born lawyer living in Colfax County, New Mexico (see below). In the same household is 17-year-old Basivio(?) Edmonds, who I am assuming is Harvey's son. That would place Harvey in New Mexico Territory as early as 1868. To my mind, this Harvey Edmonds, a lawyer living in New Mexico, was the legal witness at the wedding of William Antrim and the Kid's mother, Catherine McCarty.

Mark Lee Gardner

Cascade, Colorado

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RANDOM EXCERPT OF A LETTER WE WON'T BE RUNNING

"The use of 'perhaps,' 'could have' and 'was almost certainly' practically demands a tighter glue than the paste that holds the story together."

X MARKS THE SPOT



In "Lincoln's Western Past" [April 2015], Johnny D. Boggs includes Council Bluffs, Iowa, in his coverage, but I wanted to point out a site your readers should visit: the spot where Abraham Lincoln stood in 1859 to survey the Missouri River Valley and Nebraska Territory, marking the eastern terminus of the Transcontinental Railroad. Shared above is the marker on the monument, on Lafayette Avenue, with the Omaha, Nebraska, skyline in the background.

Jeff Rarnes

Fifth-generation Nebraskan and native of Omaha

Payne-ful Realization



I think that you may be mistaken about David Payne being third from left in *Opening Shot*, May 2015 (see photo at top left). If you look at the known picture of Payne in the inset (top right) and compare the shape of the nose, eye and facial hair with those of the gent holding an ax, (third from left, in the above detail), you may change your mind. Even the hat is the style seen in the known picture of Payne. The person third from left has a much darker beard—fuller and a different style. I would pick man number five as being Payne.

David A. Nason

Phoenix, Arizona

HISTORIC TWINS?

While paging through the February 2015 *True West* magazine, I noticed an Apache scout (below left) who resembles a young Kirk Douglas (below right). Perhaps the actor was here before.

Rafael Guerrios

Shingle Springs, California, Maniac # 1066



- COURTESY UNIVERSAL PICTURES

Short & Memorable

The real Luke Short finally gets his due.

have always dug the name Luke Short, and I am not alone in my appreciation.

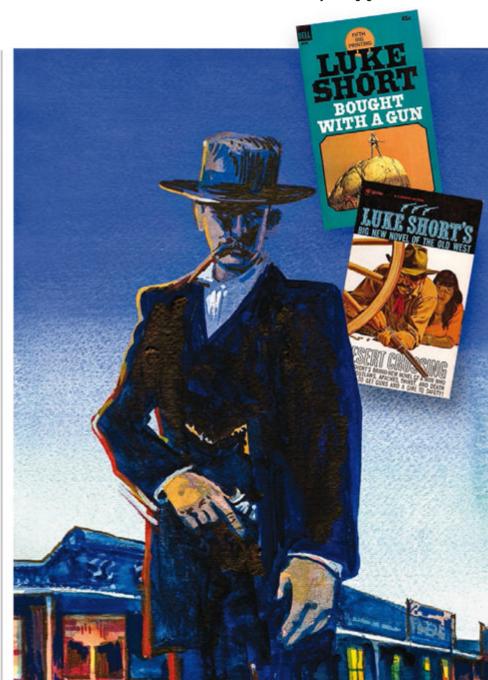
In 1935, Illinois-born writer Frederick Dilley Glidden sold "Six-Gun Lawyer" to *Cowboy Stories* pulp magazine. The editor liked the story, but complained that Glidden's name did not sound "Western." Glidden's agent, Marguerite E. Harper, came up with the pen name Luke Short because, as she put it, "It is short and memorable," which is redundant, if you think about it.

Neither she nor Glidden knew that the name was the handle of a famous Old West character. (I have a hard time believing this claim, especially since Glidden was a fan of Westerns.) At any rate, the new name worked like a charm.

After publishing 13 novels in the 1930s under the pen name Luke Short, Glidden started writing movies, with four Luke Short-penned movies appearing in 1948 alone. He enjoyed a long career, before dying at the age of 66 in 1974.

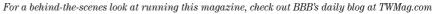
Thanks to our friends, and respected historians, Chuck Parsons and Jack DeMattos, the real Luke Short finally gets his due in *The Notorious Luke Short*. From their book, we share how the gunfighter incited the Dodge City War (p. 22).

To help out his buddy, Bat Masterson visited Silverton, Colorado, to enlist Wyatt Earp's support, and the two traveled by train to reach Short. One narrow gauge segment from those days that still steams on is the Durango & Silverton. A great time to ride the train is this August, during the magazine's fourth "True West Railfest." This year's festival is going to be the best yet, with New Mexico historian Paul Andrew Hutton joining the fun (see p. 2-3).



Luke Short draws iron in front of the Oriental Saloon in Tombstone, Arizona Territory, while novelist Frederick Dilley Glidden, a.k.a. Luke Short, rides on his coattails.

- ILLUSTRATED BY BOB BOZE BELL -





Quotes

"My hated figure is the Western hero who rides along looking like a transvestite, strumming his guitar, nasally singing a synthetic ballad, and looking for all the world like a fugitive from a cheap circus."

– John Meston, the head writer for the Gunsmoke radio and TV series

"Virtually all ideologues, of any variety, are fearful and insecure, which is why they are drawn to ideologies that promise prefabricated answers for all circumstances."

- American-Canadian journalist Jane Jacobs

"June 3. Cold Harbor. I was killed."

– Alleged note found in a blood-splattered diary on the body of a Union soldier

"One machine can do the work of fifty ordinary men. No machine can do the work of one extraordinary man."

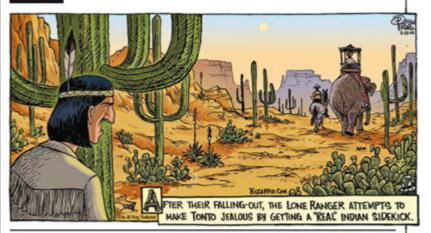
– American businessman Elbert Hubbard, who died with his wife, aboard the Lusitania

"...the only way to have a friend is to be one."

- American essayist Ralph Waldo Emerson

946's My Darling Clementine

Bizarro By dan piraro



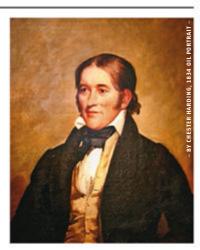
Katherine McLintock (Maureen O'Hara): "Are you going to stand there with that stupid look on your face while the hired help insults your wife?"

George Washington McLintock (John Wayne): "He can't help it—he's just ignorant. He doesn't know any better than to tell the truth. And I can't help this stupid look. I started acquiring it as you gained in social prominence!"

-From 1963's McLintock!

"Pop, pop, pop! Bom, bom, bom! throughout the day. No time for memorandums now. Go ahead! Liberty and Independence forever."

—David Crockett, in his alleged last diary entry, dated March 5, 1836, the day before the fall of the Alamo



Henry Fonda, as Whatt Farn in

been close
to Bette Davis for 38
years—and I have
the cigarette burns
to prove it."

– Henry Fonda

Old Vaguero Saying



"Don't look where you fall, but where you slipped."



SHERIDAN, WY'S LEGENDARY LANDMARK

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Justice for Jack

Remember Jack Swilling's Arizona legacy, not the suspicion of robbery that preceded his death.



The only known photo of Jack Swilling shows him (seated) with his adopted Apache son, Guillermo, in Prescott, Arizona, in 1875. His second wife, Trinidad Mejia Escalante, said the photo had been taken in jest, yet it was used against Swilling after he was accused of robbing a stagecoach in 1878.

- COURTESY ROBERT G. MCCUBBIN COLLECTION –

encouraged him to spin yarns. On his 26th birthday, Swilling moved west.

Over the next several years, he worked as a teamster, miner, bartender and saloon owner, U.S. Army scout, Indian fighter, farmer and businessman. He served during the Civil War—on both sides. During and after that tumultuous period, Swilling helped create two of Arizona's most important cities.

In 1863, three years after Swilling had first explored the Bradshaw Mountains, he guided Joseph R. Walker's expedition that resulted in a gold rush in the area—and the settlement

of the town of Prescott. Swilling made a small fortune.

By 1867, he and his family were living in the Salt River Valley. He convinced associates to utilize ancient canals to bring water to the valley, and farmers flocked to the area. It was called Phoenix.

In 1878, despite his failing health, the adventurer headed to the

Wickenburg Mountains with two pals, looking for the remains of Col. Jacob Snively, a friend and fellow prospector who had been killed by Apaches seven years before.

During the time of their journey, on April 19, three men robbed a stage near Wickenburg—and the description of the suspects matched Swilling and company. Word got around that Swilling had told drinking buddies how robbing the stage would be easy and lucrative. He and his friends were arrested.

The sickly Swilling had to be carried to the stagecoach that took him to the hot, dirty and unhealthy jail in Yuma. He wrote a letter to the public, sharing his background and defending himself against the robbery charges.

His plea for help did no good. Swilling died in his cell on August 12.

Over the next few weeks, authorities identified the real stage robbers. Swilling and his friends were cleared of the crime.

Swilling's final resting place is another cloudy chapter in his life. His grave was among the many lost 25 years later, when a

railroad yard was built over Yuma's pioneer cemetery. Local lore states that Swilling's body may have been moved to the new Yuma cemetery.

No matter where his bones may rest, let's remember Swilling as a vital Arizona pioneer and downplay the sad ending to his tale.

ioneer Jack Swilling should be remembered for his many contributions to Arizona—but his legacy is clouded by a robbery charge.

Born John W. Swilling on April Fool's Day, 1830, in South Carolina, he spent his first quarter-century in the South. Details about his early life are cloudy. He suffered a broken skull and a gunshot to the back in 1854, but he did not reveal how he got the injuries. Those physical problems, though, led to a lifetime addiction to alcohol and opiates, which probably

Swilling had told drinking buddies how robbing the stage would be easy and lucrative.

sign of good ngs to come



Grab your survival guide and hit the trail.

Highway 50, known as "The Loneliest Road in

America," traces the route of the

historic Pony Express across central Nevada. Follow the Highway 50 signs to explore the historic and scenic Pony Express Territory. And don't forget

to visit PonyExpressNevada. com for a Highway 50 Survival Guide before you head out!

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Reno





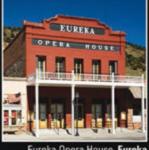


Nevada Northern Railway, Ely

Pyramid Lake, near Fernley

Stokes Castle, Austin





Eureka Opera House, Eureka



Fallon

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Great Basin National Park, Great Basin

Liberty, Not Death

A monument at Fort Robinson offers an important rallying cry for Northern Cheyennes.

hildren soothed their thirst by scraping their fingernails on barrack windows to capture frost and warded off hunger by chewing on leather. After four days of starvation, their elders declared they would rather die seeking freedom than perish like this.

Thus, on January 9, 1879, Chief Dull Knife and approximately 149 of his Northern Cheyennes broke out of their Fort Robinson prison in Nebraska, successfully ending up on their homelands in Montana. They had been imprisoned at the fort since the first time they had fled, from the government-imposed exile of the tribe to Oklahoma.

Although unarmed, these refugees fought the U.S. troops who pursued them. Soldiers killed 39 Northern Cheyenne men and 22 women and children.

Journalists horrified the nation with accounts of the flight. President Rutherford B. Hayes called for a congressional investigation of the "unnecessary cruelty," and *The New York Times* editorialized about the "shameful record" this incident added to America's sins.

If the Northern Cheyennes had returned to Oklahoma, as the government demand-

They would

rather die seeking

freedom than

perish like this.

ed, or remained in Nebraska to die, his people would have ceased to exist, says Major Robinson, whose Great-Great-Grandmother Humpback Woman survived the march. "It's truly amazing what they did," he adds.

That's why so many people's hearts broke when, in

2000, descendants of those brave Northern Cheyennes discovered next to nothing at Fort Robinson commemorated their plight. Edna Seminole and Rose Eagle Feathers found only a simple sign—pockmarked with bullet holes—designating



Edna Seminole, Ralph Red Fox and Edna's son, Winslow White Crane (from left), worked with the community to build the Northern Cheyenne Breakout Monument. Bison rancher Ted Hughes, who donated the land, lived to see the memorial before he died this March.

- BY DAVID HENDEE OF THE OMAHA WORLD NEWS -

the spot. They declared their ancestors deserved better. That marked the beginning of the Northern Cheyenne Breakout Monument that now stands on a hill near Fort Robinson State Park.

Robinson, an architect who designed buildings around the world before returning to the Northern Cheyenne

reservation in southeastern Montana in 1999, worked with a tribal committee to design the pipestone-clad obelisk, topped by a morning star, symbolizing the Cheyenne name for Dull Knife.

Calling the monument "pretty powerful," Robinson

says, "This is not just about remembering, but about healing for the next generation—not just for tribal people, but for non-tribal people as well. It's amazing how many donations came from the people of Nebraska."

The \$150,000 raised for the monument included major contributions from Chief Dull Knife College, the Northern Cheyenne Tribe, Western Energy and St. Labre Indian School.

Robinson admits he was shocked when he learned about the breakout, history he had never heard while growing up. Now his children know the story. He and his wife have taken their two girls and son to Fort Robinson. "The kids question why it happened—why we were treated like that," he says. "It makes them sad, but proud of being Cheyenne."

Nearly 140 years have passed since the tragedy, he says, but now everyone can learn about the courage and determination of the Northern Cheyennes.

Arizona's Journalist of the Year, Jana Bommersbach has won an Emmy and two Lifetime Achievement Awards. She also cowrote and appeared on the Emmy-winning Outrageous Arizona and has written two true crime books, a children's book and the historical novel Cattle Kate.

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First Sketch Made in the West

A painting inspired by Thomas Moran's sketch of Green River tops Christie's auction of William Koch's Western artworks.



Christie's New York still holds the artist record for Thomas Moran, for another Green River oil, painted in 1878. A collector bid \$15.8 million for it seven years before the above Green River 1896 oil hammered in at \$7.5 million.

"I place no value

upon literal transcripts

from Nature."

efore 34-year-old Thomas Moran reached his ultimate destination of Yellowstone in Wyoming Territory in the summer of 1871, he stepped off the Union Pacific Railroad and viewed the

towering cliffs of the Green River. The artist completed a field study that he later inscribed, "First Sketch Made in the West."

Moran would return to this first Western

subject of his many times during his storied career. His 1896 oil of Green River, featuring a troop of American Indians in the lower right, was exhibited at the National Gallery of Art in Washington, D.C., and appeared at auction for the first

time, on May 21, 2015, at Christie's New York. Not surprisingly, this rare work of art landed the top bid, at \$7.5 million.

The painting was sold from the collection of American businessman William Koch,

who is most famously known in the Old West collecting arena for paying \$2.1 million for the only known photograph of outlaw Billy the Kid. Koch has been collecting

Western artworks for an Old West town he hopes to build, but he ran out of room and decided to put some of the treasures on the auction block.

The Green River oil was painted a quarter century after Moran spent five

weeks with Dr. Ferdinand Hayden's surveying expedition to Yellowstone to complete an article assignment for *Scribner's Monthly*. His visual documentation of more than 30 sites, along with photographs taken by William Henry Jackson, inspired the creation of Yellowstone as America's first national park in 1872.

Although Moran took eight trips to the West, between 1871 and 1892, he never forgot his first experience of the frontier. His sketch of Green River lived on in his studio as the basis for more than 40 depictions he created of the river's bluffs. His daughter Ruth recalled that whenever the household needed funds, the family would joke, "Well, it's time for Father to paint another Green River."

The artist did have a tendency to minimize signs of civilization in his paintings. He didn't portray Green River's railroad settlement, which had about 2,000 residents in 1868, the year Congress established Wyoming Territory. Moran ignored the town's schoolhouse, church, hotel and brewery, and a landscape scarred by train tracks. Easterners viewing Green River from Moran's perspective saw a virgin, pristine area, whose only inhabitants were wild American Indians. "I place no value upon literal transcripts from Nature. My general scope is not realistic; all my tendencies are toward idealization," Moran freely admitted.

Along with Moran's oil, collectors purchased works by other artists who similarly portrayed a more romantic and nostalgic impression of the frontier.

Ä,





Paintings that sold for higher bids than previous auctions include: *Pretty Mother of the Night—White Otter is No Longer a Boy*, by Frederic Remington, bidding in at \$1.95 million, an increase from \$1.4 million in 2011; *Attack on the Emigrant Train*, by Thomas Hill, at \$190,000, an increase from \$37,500 in 2011; and *Offering the Pipe to Thunder*, by Amédée Joullin, which set an artist record with the \$85,000 bid, an increase from \$24,000 in 2000 (top three: clockwise from left).





UPCOMING AUCTIONS

August 16-17, 2015

Cowboy & Indian Collectibles Auction in Santa Fe (Santa Fe, NM) AuctionInSantaFe.com 307-635-0019

August 22, 2015

Western Artworks Western Masters (Coeur d'Alene, ID) WesternMastersArtShow.com 406-781-0550 Paintings that sold for lower bids than previous auctions include: *The Sutter Creek Stage*, by Frank Tenney Johnson, at \$300,000, a decrease from \$350,000 in 2012; *Leader of Men*, by Howard Terpning, bidding in at \$700,000, a decrease from \$850,000 in 2012; and *Marking the Crossing*, by Tom Lovell, at \$210,000, a decrease from \$350,000 in 2012 (bottom three: clockwise from above).





GARTRIDGE RES

1860 Henry Lever Action



1866 Lever Action

1860 HENRY

1866 RIFLE

In October 1860, B.T. Henry was granted a patent for the design of a new gun, a repeating rifle that used metallic cartridges. With it, one man could load 15 cartridges in eight to ten seconds. It was such an important innovation that the gun was named after its inventor. All models feature a walnut stock with 13-round capacity (Henry Trapper holds 10 rounds).

When Nelso that his 186

When Nelson King patented his new loading system, he could not have known that his 1866 model would play a prominent part in the winning of the West. The 1866, or "Yellowboy," as it was famously known because of its shiny brass frame, was the successor to the Henry.

1873 Rifle

1873 RIFLE - CHECKERED STRAIGHT STOCK

This rifle is an ideal option for any shooter who enjoys the enhanced grip and look of a checkered rifle. A full octagonal barrel, case-hardened frame and checkered straight stock are featured on this 1873.

Taylor's '92

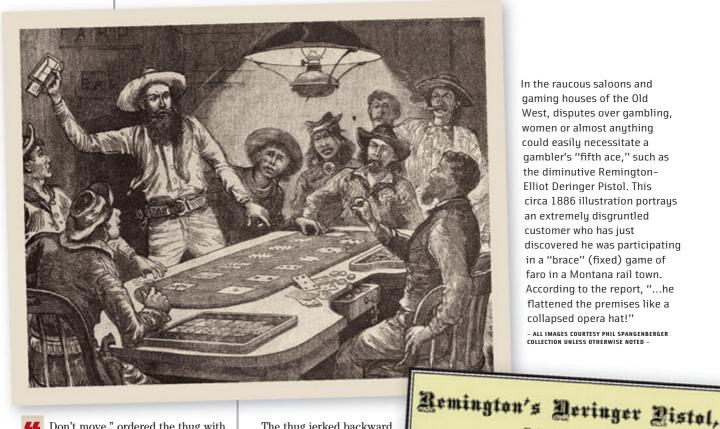
TAYLOR'S 1892 RIFLE

The 1892 Rifle was mechanically stronger and less costly to produce than the '73. A total of 1,004,675 of the 1892s, in both solid and takedown models, were manufactured from 1892 to 1941. Taylor's & Co. is proud to offer reproductions of these favorites.

The outlaw lay helpless, choking on his own blood and taking painful breaths.

A .41 Derringer Barks Again

An old-time pocket pistol and a seemingly low-powered cartridge save the day for law and order!



In the raucous saloons and gaming houses of the Old West, disputes over gambling, women or almost anything could easily necessitate a gambler's "fifth ace," such as the diminutive Remington-Elliot Deringer Pistol. This circa 1886 illustration portrays an extremely disgruntled customer who has just discovered he was participating in a "brace" (fixed) game of faro in a Montana rail town. According to the report, "...he flattened the premises like a collapsed opera hat!" - ALL IMAGES COURTESY PHIL SPANGENBERGER

Market Don't move," ordered the thug with the heavy revolver, as he shoved its muzzle into the surprised and helpless detective's chest. "I'm on to you, and you're gonna get it!" he went on, as he fingered the trigger of the big doubleaction six-gun.

Then something crashed against the door. The gunman turned his attention to it. For that split second his eyes left the detective to look at the door, the officer dropped to one knee and pulled a palmsized pistol from his ankle holster.

In a single swift motion, the detective thrusted his gun hand upward, squeezed the spur trigger of his .41 Short Rimfire derringer and fired it point blank against the desperado's chest.

The thug jerked backward and dropped to the floor as the 130-grain lead slug plowed into his chest. Often considered a somewhat ineffectual round, the .41 Short Rimfire had done its work well. The outlaw lay helpless, choking on his

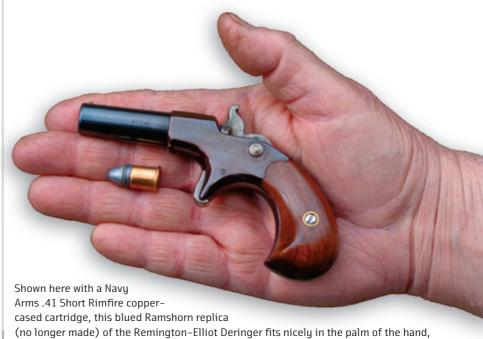
own blood and taking painful breaths. In a few short moments, he died.

Sounds like a tale out of the Wild West era doesn't it? Not so! I heard this tale in the mid-1980s, from an undercover detective working the vice squad in a suburban Illinois town. He had contacted me after reading my article about modern replicas of the single-shot Remington

While the spelling of derringer with a double "r" has been the

accepted method in the gun world, Remington spelled derringer with a single "r," in the manner of Henry Deringer, the originator of the pistols, as seen in the company's catalog ad from 1880.





revealing how easily a person could conceal the tiny one-shooter.

Deringer Pistol (Elliot's Patent), originally manufactured by E. Remington & Sons and produced circa 1867-1888.

In 1982, the now-defunct Ramshorn Gun Manufactury, out of Warren, Ohio, sent me a cased pair of these little "Mississippi" one-shooters to evaluate. Impressed with the quality of the handgun, and the fact that someone had invested time and finances to reproduce the archaic firearm, I tested them for my Black Powder column in Guns & Ammo Magazine.

During my shooting session with these replicas, I stoked them with Navy Arms Company's then-newly manufactured .41 Short Rimfire smokeless ammunition (no longer produced). In a penetration test, the bullets tore through 13 inches of thick clay from a distance of 10 inches. Both surprised and impressed with this performance, I gave the guns and ammo a favorable write-up.

Shortly thereafter, I received a call from the detective, who wanted to know how he could acquire one of

handguns. He told me he felt the Remington Deringer would serve

him well as a backup weapon in his undercover work. I cautioned him that these firearms-though well madehad no safety mechanisms; they were strictly made as "curios" for gun enthusiasts and probably would not be optimal for such dangerous work. With those caveats, I gave him the information he requested.

Fast-forward about a year later, and I received a follow-up phone call from the detective, thanking me for assisting him in his quest for a Ramshorn Mississippi derringer. He shared the tale I related earlier, of how one of these pocket guns had saved his life and put a bad man out of work-permanently!

Although these Remington-Elliot Deringer replicas are no longer being produced, you might contact gun brokers to see if any have Ramshorn derringers for sale. I still maintain that such antiquatedtype guns-and the .41 Short Rimfire cartridge-should be enjoyed solely as historical reminders of the arms and

ammunition of yesteryear.

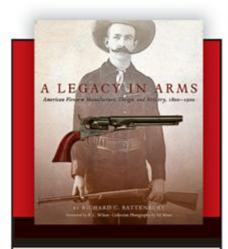
Around 9,000 "Remington's Deringer Pistols" of Elliot's Patent were produced from 1867 to 1888. The 41/2-inch, seven-ounce Elliot (right) has a 21/2-inch barrel screwed into the frame, as well as a trigger, a mainspring and a combination hammer and

breechblock. Grips were generally walnut or rosewood.

- COURTESY ROCK ISLAND AUCTION COMPANY -

At the same time, I have often reflected on this detective's hair-raising story. I definitely have gained a new respect for these little guns and the supposedly "impotent" .41 Short Rimfire ammunition.

Phil Spangenberger has written for Guns & Ammo, appears on the History Channel and other documentary networks, produces Wild West shows, is a Hollywood gun coach and character actor, and is True West's Firearms Editor.



A LEGACY IN ARMS

A Legacy in Arms: American Firearm Manufacture, Design and Artistry, 1800-1900 looks at the gun in America through both its technical development and aesthetic appeal. Author Richard C. Rattenbury offers an edifying 226-page study of the evolution and importance of firearms throughout America's history, from the cottage industries of early gunsmiths to the arms factories that mass-produced interchangeable parts—the first industry to do so! Through entertaining text and an appealing array of more than 200 period and firearm images, this hardcover work explores the development of various firearm systems, such as breechloaders and repeaters, along with the appeal of the gun as art.

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THE MAN BEHIND THE



The "Dodge City Peace Commissioners," photographed by Charles A. Conkling on June 10, 1883, include (standing, from left) William H. Harris, Luke L. Short, Bat Masterson, William F. Petillon (seated, from left) Charles E. Bassett, Wyatt Earp, Michael Francis "Frank" McLean and Cornelius "Neil" Brown.

- COURTESY ROBERT G. MCCUBBIN COLLECTION -

DODGE CITY WAR

LUKE SHORT'S TROUBLES BROUGHT ABOUT ONE OF THE AMERICAN WEST'S MOST FAMOUS PHOTOGRAPHS.

the iconic photograph, a group of stone-faced men stare stolidly back at the camera, giving no indication that theirs was a celebratory pose, an image of the "Dodge City Peace Commission" taken to mark the victory of one group of gamblers and hard cases over another.

Standing in the rear, the men to either side of him standing much taller, is the diminutive Luke Short. It was for his sake

that the so-called "Dodge City War" occurred in the first place, but for some reason, he never quite achieved the prominence of two other men in the group—Wyatt Earp and Bat Masterson. Short had been a cowboy, scouted during the Indian Wars and evolved into a well-known sporting man, but he has remained in the shadows of others, familiar only to afficionados of the Old West.

TROUBLE IN DODGE CITY

Short first met Earp, William H. Harris and Masterson, in that order, in Tombstone, Arizona, after arriving there in November 1880. Harris was well acquainted with Earp from Earp's time in Dodge City, Kansas. Based on their previous friendship, Harris, who ran the gambling concession at Tombstone's Oriental Saloon, convinced the owners to engage Earp as a faro dealer. Short and Masterson worked for the Oriental as "lookouts" hired to protect the game. In fact, Short was a lookout at a faro game when he became involved in his first celebrated gunfight, on February 25, 1881 (see p. 40).

The first time Short stepped foot in Dodge City was when he moved to the Kansas burg in April 1881. By that time, Harris had sold out his interest in Tombstone and provided Short with employment as a faro dealer at the Long Branch Saloon in Dodge City that he owned with partner Chalk Beeson. On February 6, 1883, Beeson sold his share of the Long Branch to Short.

The month after Short and Harris formed their partnership,

"In no outward particular did this man indicate the cowboy by birth and training, the gambler by choice and the slayer of men by force of circumstances. And yet Luke Short did all that."

-Omaha Daily Bee, September 12, 1893

Harris entered the mayoral race against Lawrence E. Deger. He lost to Deger, by a vote of 143 to 214, on April 3. On April 28, officers arrested three women employed by Short at the Long Branch, in accordance with a new ordinance to suppress vice that Mayor Deger had authorized.

The Ford County Globe reported: "It was claimed by the proprietors that partiality was shown in arresting [the] women in their house when two were allowed to

remain in A. B. Webster's saloon, one at Heinz & Kramer's, two at Nelson Cary's, and a whole herd of them at Bond & Nixon's dance hall." If that was true, "it would be most natural for them to think so and give expression to their feelings."

The "expression to their feelings" turned out to be a gunfight between Luke Short and policeman Louis C. Hartman, later that evening.

Short later told a newspaper that the law knew "their policeman attempted to assassinate me and I had him arrested for it and had plenty of evidence to have convicted him, but before it came to trial they had organized a vigilance committee and made me leave, so that I could not appear against him."

Deger and associates forced Short, and four others arrested, to leave town. "...about one hundred and fifty citizens were on watch [May 7, 1883], and a large police force is still on duty night and day," *The Dodge City Times* reported. Deger, the police force and the Dodge City citizens "are determined that the lawless element shall not thrive in this city."

THE INVITATION

Short petitioned Gov. George Glick to intervene. Stressing he was "entirely innocent" of assault against Hartman, Short stated that after he had paid his \$2,000 bond, he was arrested again, without stated charge. Then men led by

Mayor Deger chased him out of jail and told him to leave and never return.

BY JACK DEMATTOS AND CHUCK PARSONS

Front Street view of Luke Short's famous Long Branch Saloon in Dodge City, Kansas, circa 1875.

- COURTESY KANSAS STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY, TOPEKA -



When Gov. Glick asked Sheriff George T. Hinkel to explain, the sheriff stated Mayor Deger had compelled "several persons to leave the city for refusing to comply with the ordinances." The sheriff stressed that "[n]o such mob exists nor is there any reason to fear any violence as I am amply able to preserve the peace."

The governor sent a blistering response to Hinkel: The action of the mayor in compelling citizens to leave town for not obeying the ordinances "simply shows that the mayor is unfit for his place, that he does not do his duty, and instead of occupying the position of peace maker, the man whose duty it is to see that the ordinances are enforced by legal process in the courts, starts out to head a mob to drive people away from their homes and their business."

The governor understood the matter as "simply a difficulty between saloon men and dance houses." He worked out an arrangement in which Short could return to Dodge City for 10 days "for the purpose of closing his business," during which he would be "perfectly safe against molestation of any kind."

In a letter written by 13 Dodge City citizens, published in the *Topeka Daily Capital* on May 18, the citizens added, that if Short overstayed the 10 days, they "would not be responsible for any personal safety."

Short called the offer a "very liberal concession on their part," but he had no desire to accept. He would rather trust himself in the hands of wild Apaches than trust to the protection of men such as Deger to "perfect the plans of my assassination." He would return, he stated, when

his enemies least expected him, and not "in answer to any invitation which they may extend to me."

GUN-TOTING SUPPORTERS

Twelve other citizens sent a letter to the governor requesting that Short be allowed to return to Dodge City and "defend himself in the court of the County." On the same date as that letter—May 12—a newspaper in Kansas City, Missouri, published a report that must have alarmed the "law and order" faction in Dodge City. *The Kansas City Journal* stated that, on the previous day, "a new man arrived on the scene who is destined to play a part in a great tragedy."

The "new man" was Masterson, ex-sheriff of Fort County, described by the paper as "one of the most dangerous men the West has ever produced." Masterson was going to visit Dodge City, and within 24 hours, "a few other pleasant gentlemen [will be] on their way to the tea party at Dodge City." Those named included Earp, "the famous marshal of Dodge," Joe Lowe, "otherwise known as 'Rowdy Joe," and the mysterious "Shotgun" [John] Collins, but "worse than all is another ex-citizen and officer of Dodge, the famous Doc Halliday [sic]."

On May 21, a train carrying Masterson stopped in Dodge City. That same day, Short arrived in Caldwell, Kansas, a cattle town nearly 200 miles southeast of Dodge City. *The Caldwell Journal* described Short as a "quiet unassuming man, with nothing about him to lead one to believe him the desperado the Dodge mob picture him to be."

Luke Short, at the height of his fame as a professional gambler, brought a whole new meaning to the term "dressed to kill."

- COURTESY KANSAS STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY, TOPEKA -

Ten days later, Earp returned to Dodge City. The former deputy city marshal arrived, "looking well and glad to get back to his old haunts, where he is well and favorably known."

Earp was too well known as far as Sheriff Hinkel was concerned. Within hours of Earp's arrival, Hinkel sent a telegram to Gov. Glick, asking if he could send Adjutant Gen. Thomas Moonlight to Dodge City "tomorrow" with the power to organize a company of militia. Hinkel knew if Earp and his cronies were assembling to do harm to any Dodge City citizen, the sheriff would be helpless to stop them.

Earp joined Short in Kinsley, and, on June 3, the two, with W.F. Petillon, rode the rails to Dodge City. "Shotgun" Collins and Masterson were meeting them there. Unless the city authorities backed down, Dodge City was about to get some "lively news."

The Ford County Globe reported Short's return in a manner suggesting the time had come to settle scores,

alerting readers that "Luke Short...has come to stay."

The day after his return, June 4, Short was in the Long Branch Saloon, well protected by several gun-toting supporters. Backed into a corner, Mayor Deger issued another proclamation, one that closed all the gambling places in town.

Never considered as the most diplomatic of men, Masterson appeared to extend an olive branch, but with a sprinkling of sarcasm, in a letter to friends in Topeka. He wrote that upon his arrival in Dodge City, a "delegation of friends" met him to escort him "without molestation" to the Harris & Short establishment. Certainly with tongue in cheek, he continued: "I never met a more gracious lot of people in my life. They all seemed favorably disposed,



and hailed the return of Short and his friends with exultant joy."

Masterson proved to be a master at articulating his thoughts without resorting to the Colt revolver.

Short contributed to Masterson's letter, hinting that the gambling houses would open soon. "The closing of the 'legitimate' calling has caused a general depression in business of every description, and I am under the impression that the more liberal and thinking class will prevail upon the mayor to rescind the proclamation in a day or two."

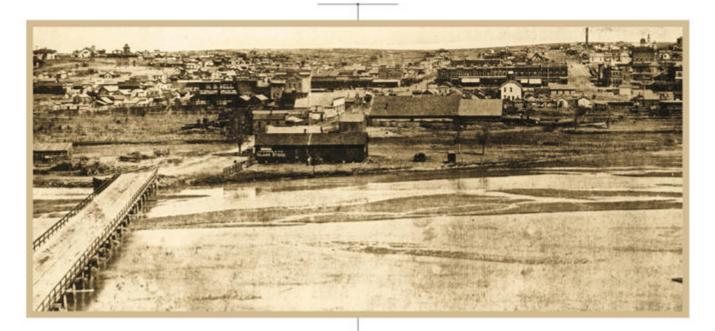
Adjutant Gen. Moonlight agreed that the ordinance had been bad for business. He wrote to Sheriff Hinkel that the "cattle trade will soon begin to throng your streets, and all your citizens are interested in the coming. It is your harvest of business and affects every citizen, and I fear unless the spirit of fair play prevails it will work to your business injury."

On June 7, the *Evening* Star of Kansas City, Missouri, reported on the

"band of noted killers" in Dodge City. Along with Earp and Masterson were Holliday and Charlie Bassett. The paper described Bassett as a "man of undoubted nerve" who "has been tried and not found wanting when it comes to a personal encounter." Holliday was too well known "to need comment or biography." Notices had been posted up ordering these men classed as killers out of town, and "as they are fully armed and determined to stay, there may be hot work there to-night."

Dodge City saw no "hot work" that night, but the conflict known as the "Dodge City War" did conclude that evening. Although a few minor points had to be worked out, Adj. Gen. Moonlight brought about a peaceful settlement between the two "warring factions." One of the earliest known bird's-eye views of Dodge City, Kansas, taken in the spring of 1887, shows an entirely new Front Street in brick, rebuilt after the 1885 fires that destroyed buildings, including the Long Branch Saloon, which was never rebuilt. The bridge at left is the location of the original bridge the cowboys streamed across after coming up the trail in the 1870s.

- COURTESY BOOT HILL MUSEUM, DODGE CITY, KANSAS -



The gunfighters who came to Dodge City to support Short had represented a real threat, but their formidable presence did not bring together the opposing factions; simple economics did. Adjutant Gen. Moonlight felt satisfied with the results: No fatalities. Not even a wounded warrior on either side.

The officers admitted "that in running Short out they made a horrible mistake, which has cost the town thousands of dollars."

No one could now claim ignorance that, in the pursuit of the almighty dollar, the question of the degree of vice—whether or not prostitutes frequented gambling halls—was no longer so important.

On June 9, the two factions had a final meeting. All those who had been chased out of town were back, with no fear of assassination or further trouble. At a new dance house just opened that Saturday night, the former enemies settled their differences, agreeing to stand by each other for the good of their trade.

HISTORY CAPTURED ON FILM

The next day, Earp and Masterson were preparing to return to Colorado on a westbound train. Before leaving town, they got together with Short and five others for a group photograph. They posed inside a large tent, the temporary studio of Dodge City photographer Charles A. Conkling. One of the most reproduced photographs of Wild West gamblers and gunfighters, the historic group portrait is titled the "Dodge City Peace Commissioners."

Nearly 50 days after the photo was taken, it was reproduced, as an engraving, in the July 21 issue of

The National Police Gazette, which noted, "the 'peace commissioners,' as they have been termed, accomplished the object of their mission, and quiet once more reigns where war for several weeks and rumors of war were the all absorbing topic. All the members of the commission, whose portraits we publish in a group, are frontiersmen of tried capacity."

Standing in the photo, from left, were Harris, Short, Masterson and Petillon. Seated, from left, were Bassett, Earp, Michael Francis "Frank" McLean and Cornelius "Neil" Brown. Prints were made of the photo and given to each of the eight "Peace Commissioners," as well as others who had supported Short.

Editor Nicholas B. Klaine, of *The Dodge City Times*, took a swipe at Petillon, stating, "The distinguished bond extractor and champion pie eater, W.F. Petillon, appears in the Group." The reference to Petillon being a "champion pie eater" does not point to him having won a contest at a country fair, but to his habit of scooping up slices of pie at various Dodge City saloons that had a "free lunch" counter.

Although the Dodge City War was now over, Gov. Glick kept his promise to commission the militia for the town, just in case. Appropriately named the "Glick Guards," the company comprised supporters of both groups during the saloon war, including Harris, Petillon and Short.

A couple of months after life calmed down in Dodge City, Short was interviewed while in Kansas City, Missouri. Klaine reprinted a portion of the interview in the Dodge City Times. The reporter asked Short if he was running his business as he had been before the "agitation occurred." Short replied,

Monte and faro games were popular at saloons like Dodge City's Long Branch Saloon (above). The longest-running television drama, *Gunsmoke*, adopted the name of Luke Short's saloon for its 1870s saloon set in Dodge City. The city's Boot Hill Museum features a replica of the saloon, with an 1881 Brunswick bar typical of the era.

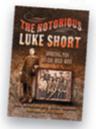
- COURTESY ROBERT G. MCCUBBIN COLLECTION -

"Yes, sir; I am going ahead as usual. I returned to stay. Those men made a bad play and could not carry it out."

Yet Short was rapidly losing interest in Dodge City. He was often out of town, heading to Texas to explore opportunities in Dallas, San Antonio and Fort Worth. He returned to Dodge City to settle up his affairs. Both he and Harris sold the Long Branch to new owners in November.

Klaine reported Short and Masterson's departure on November 16 to Texas, in his signature style: "The authorities in Dallas and Ft. Worth are stirring up the gambling fraternity, and probably the 'peace makers' have gone there to 'harmonize' and adjust affairs. The gambling business is getting considerable 'shaking up' all over the country. The business of gambling is 'shaking' in Dodge. It is nearly 'shook out' entirely.

This edited excerpt is from *The Notorious Luke Short:*Sporting Man of the Wild West, by Jack DeMattos and Chuck Parsons and published this year by University of North Texas Press. DeMattos is the author of six books on Western gunfighters, including Mysterious Gunfighter: The Story of Dave Mather. Parsons is the author of Captain John R. Hughes and The Sutton-Taylor Feud, and coauthor of A Lawless Breed, a John Wesley Hardin biography.



HATTIE SHORT'S TRAGEDY

HATTIE SHORT PHOTO COURTESY WAYNE SHORT -

When Luke Short
and Hattie arrived in
Cimarron, Kansas, on
September 26, 1887,
they checked into
the New West Hotel,
where Luke signed the
register "Luke Short &
Wife." The New West Hotel
had been built a year earlier,

than Nicholas B. Klaine-who had been on

at a cost of \$15,000, by none other

the side opposed to Short during the "Dodge City War." Initially called the Klaine Hotel, the owner changed the name to the New West Hotel. Would Short have stopped at this particular hostelry had it still been called the Klaine Hotel? Perhaps he knew and didn't care. The "Dodge City War" was more than four years in his past.

Hattie Beatrice Buck married Short in Oswego, Kansas, on March 15, 1887. We know of no photograph showing Mr. and Mrs. Short together, but the photo of Short (below) may have been taken at the time of their wedding, given the boutonniére he wears. The photo of Hattie (above) was taken circa 1887 as well.

Hattie would be Short's wife for a brief six years. Just two days before he died of Bright's Disease on September 8, 1893, while Hattie sat by his bedside in Kansas, word arrived that her 54-year-old mother had died in Fort Worth, Texas. A Dodge City

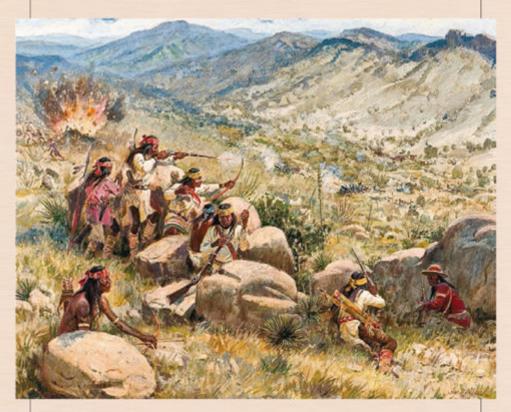


- LUKE SHORT PHOTO COURTESY DR. JUDY OHMER

newspaper reported that the "two funerals will take place at the same time." Death had already claimed two of Hattie's sisters and her father. Now her mother and her husband had died just 48 hours apart. She had suffered an unusual amount of early death in her family and found herself a widow at the age of 29.

Why was Lt. George Bascom thrown under the wagon?

Alleged Bascom Affair



Sent from Fort Buchanan in Arizona Territory to search for the trail of a boy kidnapped by Apaches, Lt. George Bascom would end up the target of blame for an 11-year-long war with famed Chiricahua Apache Chief Cochise. Their skirmish resulted in the war's first major battle, the 1862 Battle of Apache Pass, portrayed by Joe Beeler's above artwork. The real story of what caused the war with Cochise tears down the account that history has long recorded as the Bascom Affair.

- COURTESY SCOTTSDALE ART AUCTION, MARCH 31, 2012 -

he legend of the Bascom Affair casts Lt. George Bascom in the worst possible, unfair light, blaming him for starting 11 years of bloody warfare. Although historians now have a better understanding of the true story, the legend persists because it has the power of being the first way folks have heard the story.

The legend says that in February 1861, while on patrol near the Whetstone Mountains, Lt. Bascom accused Chiricahua Apache Chief Cochise and his Apache band of kidnapping 12-year-old Felix Ward, who had been taken from his stepfather Johnny's ranch near modern-day Patagonia, Arizona, in October 1860. Cochise escaped the troops and took hostages.

A wise sergeant told Bascom to make an exchange of Apache captives for these hostages, but the lieutenant refused, ordering the sergeant court-martialed. Bascom then, according to Apache sources, hanged his hostages. Cochise responded by killing his. The war was on.

THE WISE SERGEANT

Who was this wise sergeant? Reuben F. Bernard, the commander of Arizona's Fort Bowie, who, in 1869, was caught in a war that he blamed on Bascom. He said of Cochise, "This Indian was at peace until betrayed and wounded by white men."

Bernard's tale of what had happened in 1861 was further embellished when Arizona Gov. A.P.K. Safford's conversation with Cochise was reported by the *Arizona Citizen* on December 7, 1872: "I told him that the conduct of Lieutenant Bascom was disliked by our people, and if he had not gone to war, Bascom would have been punished and many lives would have been saved."

Sidney DeLong, a sutler at Fort Bowie when Bernard commanded the post, wrote an early history of Arizona in 1905 and included Bernard's version of the story. Every verifiable fact is wrong; the only part DeLong got right was that Bascom and Cochise had met in Bascom's tent.

Then the author of the first major work on Arizona history, Thomas Edwin Farish,



picked up the ball. He reported the start of the Cochise War as 1861 and placed the blame on Bascom.

Where was Bascom when these devastating portrayals of him and his actions came out? He had been killed at Valverde, in 1862, during the Civil War. He was not alive to defend his reputation.

THE TRUTH COMES OUT

Starting about 1960, scholars Robert Utley, Benjamin H. Sacks and Constance Wynn Altshuler began locating primary documentation, namely the reports of men who had actually been at Apache Pass with Lt. Bascom in 1861. They painted a different picture of the so-called Bascom Affair. The Apache kidnapping of 12-year-old Felix Ward in January 1861 ignites warfare between Chiricahua Apache Cochise and the U.S. Army. The Apache raise the boy who grows up to serve as an Army scout, under a new name, Mickey Free.

- TRUE WEST ARCHIVES -

Bernard had claimed he advised Lt. Bascom to exchange their hostages for Cochise's, only to be ignored and court-martialed. Yet no contemporaneous record of this incident has emerged. The historians concluded Bernard could not have offered this advice because, quite simply, he was not with Bascom's command at Apache Pass.

Bernard was in the wrong unit. Bascom was 7th Infantry, and Bernard was 1st Dragoons. He did not show up as an attachment to Bascom's company. No one else remembered him being there, and he misstated key elements, like the subsequent presence of his own commanding officer, Lt. Isaiah Moore. The record showed that Bernard was probably on leave in Tennessee when Bascom confronted Cochise. Sacks concluded that even if Bernard had been present, he wouldn't have arrived until Lt. Moore did, on February 14, eight days after Bascom had refused to accept Cochise's trade of 16 U.S. Army mules and hostage James Wallace for Bascom's captives, against the advice of his "wise sergeant."

In the 1990s, historian Doug McChristian and Fort Bowie National Monument Ranger Larry Ludwig turned up Daniel Robinson's account. Robinson was Bascom's sergeant at the time, and he respected him. From Robinson, we learned that Bascom had objected to hanging the hostages, but his opinion was outweighed by four officers who all outranked him and none of whom complained of his behavior. We learned that the tortured and mutilated bodies of four Americans were found before anyone talked of hanging the Apache hostages. Cochise had acted first, not the other way around.

With all this negative evidence pointing to Bascom destroyed, we still find those who argue that the Cochise War began with Bascom attempting to take Cochise hostage.

PEACEFUL COCHISE

The myth of the peaceful Cochise appeared after the Civil War. Captain Bernard returned to Arizona in 1868, having been 1st sergeant of G Company, 1st Dragoons, at Fort Breckinridge (the "old" Camp Grant), before the Civil War.



After Cochise's warriors ambushed the Overland Mail stages, they killed their American hostages, inciting a reaction from the U.S. Army that Bascom did not initially support.

- TRUE WEST ARCHIVES -

Bernard told his commander, Col. Thomas Devin, his tale as the wise sergeant who had advised Bascom against his course of action in 1861. Knowing that Bernard had been in Arizona before the Civil War, Devin had turned to him for information about Cochise.

Bernard included in his account that Cochise had always been friendly, until Bascom came into the picture. He even claimed the prominent Apache leader even had a contract to guard the Overland Mail in 1861.

Governor Safford's interview with Cochise in 1872 gave the chief the opportunity to reinforce Bernard's story. Cochise said Bascom had blamed the wrong tribe for kidnapping Felix. He came in peacefully to straighten out the matter, but Bascom tried to take him prisoner. That led Cochise to distrust the U.S. Army.

The historical record shows, however, that Cochise is better described as more prudent than friendly. He did not wish a fight with Americans close at hand. He was drawing annuities from the U.S. and so his men raided primarily in Mexico. Times were hard and food scarce, though, so his men began raiding closer to home. On January 11, 1861, they stole 16 mules

from troops of Fort Buchanan. Captain Richard Ewell had already been out to Apache Pass several times to force Cochise to return stolen livestock. The captain swore the next time he went, he would "strike a blow."

Cochise found the Overland Mail convenient, as the company made gifts and bought firewood and hay from his women. But his warriors had twice threatened to kill all the Overland personnel and drive them from Apache Pass. In a society of individualists, where each man decided on his own path, Cochise

had the respect of many and was able to call together large numbers of his people in a way no other Apache leader ever did.

THE REAL BASCOM AFFAIR

If Bascom had been allowed to defend himself against Bernard and Cochise's claims, scholars revealed the following is what the lieutenant would have shared.

Apaches took Ward and about 20 head of cattle from the ranch on January 27, 1861. Upon returning home the next day, the stepfather traveled to Fort Buchanan at the head of Sonoita Creek to report the abduction. Lieutenant Col. Pitcairn Morrison immediately sent Lt. Bascom, the commander of Company C, 7th Infantry, to search for the trail.

Bascom, accompanied by Lt. Richard Long, found the trail that afternoon. It led east along the Babocomari River, pointing toward Apache Pass, at the north end of the Chiricahua Mountains, and Cochise, the chief who lived there. Experience had taught the two young officers that Coyoteros

(White Mountain), Pinals and other Western Apaches, returning from raids in Mexico, traveled north along Sonoita Creek and over Redington Pass to the San Pedro River and home. Only Chiricahuas traveled east toward their home at Apache Pass.

What the two lieutenants didn't realize was that the activation of Fort Breckinridge, with two

companies of dragoons, 90 miles to the north at the mouth of Aravaipa Creek on the San Pedro, had caused the other Apache

"...WE ARE
CONTENDING
WITH ONE OF
THE MOST
INTELLIGENT
HOSTILE
INDIANS
ON THE
CONTINENT."

bands to change their route east to the Sulphur Springs Valley and Apache Pass.

On January 29, Bascom led 54 infantrymen and four noncommissioned officers mounted on mules. The troops arrived at Apache Pass on February 3 and were joined by Sgt. Robinson and 11 more men. Johnny, the boy's stepfather, went along as interpreter. Camped near the Overland Mail Station, Bascom sent messengers to Cochise's camp

at Goodwin Canyon to ask the chief to come in for a talk.

Cochise arrived at noon the next day. He brought his wife, two boys and three adult males. He wasn't expecting trouble, nor was Bascom, whose sentries patrolled with bayonets on empty rifles. The woman, children and two men were fed in the mess tent. Bascom, Ward, Cochise and his brother, Coyuntura, went into Bascom's tent to dine and talk.

The lieutenant asked for the return of the boy and the cattle. Cochise replied that he did not have the livestock or the boy, but he thought he knew who did and might arrange for their return if given 10 days. Bascom responded that Cochise could remain as a hostage until both boy and cattle were returned.

Enraged, Cochise leapt up and cut his way out of the tent. Coyuntura did the same, but stumbled over the guy ropes and fell. A sentry's bayonet pinned him to the ground. Johnny emerged from the tent and fired shots at the fleeing Cochise.

Historians have criticized Bascom for not using the right mix of sabre rattling and diplomacy. Others had successfully negotiated with Cochise. But in those cases, Cochise had the goods to return. In March 1859, he had denied stealing mules when confronted by Capt. Ewell, even though he had stolen them. Bascom likely felt Cochise was concealing this theft too. He wasn't, but Bascom had no way of knowing that Cochise was telling the truth.

With Cochise angry and on the run, Bascom ordered his men into the Overland Mail Station to fortify against an Apache



Just like Cochise got the opportunity to tell his side of the story, when Arizona Gov. A.P.K. Safford interviewed the chief in 1872, the Chiricahua Medicine Man Geronimo also told his story, while he was a prisoner of war at Fort Sill in Oklahoma Territory.

- TRUE WEST ARCHIVES -

attack. Troops pulled up wagons in front of the gate and dug fighting positions beneath them. They used grain and flour sacks to form a parapet. They had rations for 20 days, but water from the spring was a half a mile away. That night, they saw signal fires on the peaks.

Late the next morning, Cochise came in for a parlay, bringing with him Francisco of the Coyotero Apache and two others. Bascom came out with Johnny and Sgts. Smith and Robinson.

Robinson observed a large number of Apaches in the arroyo south of the station. Two women signaled to the Overland Mail employees, who emerged from the station and moved toward the arroyo. Bascom ordered them back, but they ignored him. Nearing the arroyo, Apache warriors emerged and tackled James Wallace and Charles Culver.

Culver broke away and, with Robert Walsh, ran toward the station. Firing became general from both sides. Between the lines, Walsh ran into a bullet. Culver was wounded. The meeting broke up.

On February 6, Cochise appeared and offered to trade 16 Army mules and Wallace for Bascom's Apache captives. Bascom declined. Bascom may have been insulted on being offered his own mules. He may have believed that Wallace, who claimed

friendship with the Apaches, was in little danger. The boy's stepfather wanted the boy back, and exchanging the hostages would not bring that about.

Cochise, of course, did not have the boy to return. His appearance at the meetings with Coyotero Chief Francisco suggests that those Apaches had not taken Felix. Cochise would have asked Francisco to return the boy. More than likely, Pinals had Felix, and Cochise was not on friendly terms with them.

Growing increasingly hostile and desperate, Cochise set ambushes for both the eastbound and westbound Overland stages on February 6. The westbound came in four hours early, bypassing an unmanned barricade without incident. Cochise and his men were busy at the other end of the pass, where they stopped an eastbound wagon train, killed six Mexican drivers, tortured two more and took three new hostages: Sam Whitfield, William Sanders and Frank Brunner. Cochise had Wallace make out a note detailing his additional hostages. He left it on a tree branch near the mail station.

On February 7, just after midnight, Moses "King" Lyons was driving the eastbound stage when Apaches attacked, wounding Lyons and killing a lead mule. Passengers cut the animal free, while William Buckley, superintendent of the line between Tucson and Mesilla, took over driving. Lieutenant J.R. Cooke, heading east to resign his commission and join the Confederacy, was among the nine passengers on board.

That afternoon, 1st Sgt. James Huber planned to take the mules to the spring in two herds. He posted a lookout on Overlook Ridge, while Sgt. Robinson and four men took up overwatch positions above the spring. Nine others moved the stock.

Robinson saw Lyons ride a mule in the midst of the herd, foiling Robinson's plan and driving all of the herd toward the spring. Minutes later, a large force of Apaches attacked from the south. Robinson was wounded, and Lyons slain.

At the Overland Mail Station, Bascom saw an even larger force of Chiricahuas in the arroyo on his flank. He believed they were going to attack him if he emerged to rescue his men. Although senior, Lt. Cooke placed himself under Bascom's command and took 10 men to rescue those at the spring. He succeeded in getting the men out, but most of the mules were lost.

Bascom believed he and his soldiers were surrounded by more than 500 Apaches. Mangas Coloradas had arrived with his warriors. The lieutenant sent messengers to Fort Buchanan, and Buckley sent A.B. Culver, the wounded man's brother, to Tucson. Two infantrymen and Culver traveled in snow with mule shoes wrapped in rags to muffle sound. They parted company on the morning of February 8 and would arrive in Fort Buchanan and Tucson, respectively, that evening.

On February 9, at Fort Buchanan, Asst. Surgeon Bernard John Dowling Irwin volunteered to lead 11 men of Company H, 7th Infantry, all the men available, to the relief of Bascom. Meanwhile, Company B, 8th Infantry, was marching 15 miles away, north of the Dos Cabezas Mountains, en route to the Rio Grande, unaware of Bascom's predicament, but in sight of Chiricahua sentinels. Apache Pass lies in the low ground between the Dos Cabezas and the Chiricahua Mountains.

By this point, the Cochise-Mangas-Francisco coalition was stressed. The Apaches had no commissary, and food and water were scarce. They had tried to lure Bascom out and failed. They were not about to conduct a costly frontal assault on the fortified station. The chiefs were aware of Company B and may have thought those troops had come in to surround them. They apparently left then, because they were not seen thereafter.

On February 10, while crossing the Sulphur Springs Valley, Asst. Surgeon Irwin encountered Coyoteros herding stolen stock back to their homeland. He ordered pursuit and captured three braves and 11 steers. Arriving at the Overland Mail Station without further incident, he brought in much needed beef. Irwin would be the first (chronologically by action) to ever receive the Medal of Honor, congratulated for his bravery at this time.

Apache Pass was quiet until February 14, when Lts. Moore and Richard Lord arrived with 70 dragoons. On February 16 and 17, they ran a reconnaissance-in-force, but did not locate any Apaches. They burned one empty *rancheria* and found the mutilated bodies of Mexicans and Cochise's four American hostages. On February 18, stagecoaches departed, and the mail was running again.

The military departed too, on February 19, leaving behind a small force to guard the mail station. At the site where the wagon train had been burned, four officers—Bascom, Lord, Moore and Irwin—met in conclave. Irwin, who was disgusted by the mutilated condition of Cochise's former prisoners, suggested hanging the hostages. All of the officers present were senior to Bascom, and he was the only one who objected. He didn't

think the hanging was a good idea. Irwin pointed out that three of the Apache captives were his, and he was going to hang them.

With no photograph of Cochise known to be in existence, this 1884 cabinet card of his youngest son, Naiche, with wife, is the closest glimpse we can get of what the Chiricahua Apache chief may have looked like. Naiche and his mother, Dostehseh, the daughter of Mangas Coloradas, were captured as part of the hostages Lt. Bascom retained at Fort Buchanan, reported James Kaywaykla, an Apache who collaborated with author Eve Ball.

– COURTESY HERITAGE AUCTIONS, NOVEMBER 10, 2007 – Bascom then consented to hanging his three hostages. As commander, Lt. Moore authorized the hanging. They released the woman and children at Fort Buchanan. The Apache captives, having learned their fate, sang their death songs. Coyuntura walked to a noose.

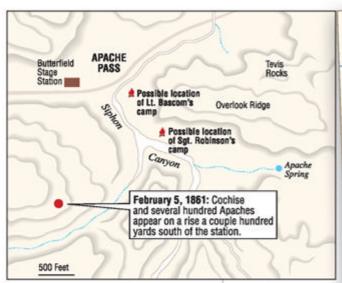
In March, Congress moved the Overland Mail north to the California-Oregon Trail, not because of anything that had happened at Apache Pass, but because the Oxbow Route ran through the Confederate territories of Arkansas and Texas.

Cochise took revenge, but it was short lived. In April, at Doubtful Canyon, he killed four teamsters and five men who were trying to reestablish the San Antonio-San Diego Mail for the Confederacy. In July, seven men of the Freeman Thomas party were slain at Cooke's Canyon. In August, Cochise and



Reports stated Apaches had taken Felix Ward to the "Black Mountain area," yet several Black Mountains exist north of the Gila River. We have chosen the one most likely to be the spot. Apache tradition claims they took the boy to Aravaipa Canyon, so we have included that site as a possibility. The map at left shows the location of the two Army camps and the location of Cochise and his men the night before the Chiricahua Apache chief came in and unsuccessfully tried to make a trade with Lt. George Bascom. That failed parley led to 11 years of bloody war that named Bascom as the cause. Why didn't Bascom believe Cochise when he said he didn't kidnap the boy nor have him to trade? Even more, why did the Army throw Bascom under the wagon?

- TRUE WEST MAPS BY GUS WALKER -



Mangas Coloradas trapped a wagon train at Cooke's Canyon and could have slaughtered everyone, but were more interested in livestock than lives. Afterwards, they made numerous attempts to drive out the Americans, and keep them out, efforts that culminated with the Battle of Apache Pass in July 1862. Thereafter, Cochise seemed to desire peace, but no one in the Army was authorized to grant it.

A RUTHLESS SELF-PROMOTER

In 1869, Cochise was the prominent Apache leader in the Southwest, and the U.S. military was trying to reassert its control over the territory. Something of Bernard's self-promotion can be seen in having about 30 of his men awarded the Medal of Honor for one single action with Cochise in the Chiricahua Mountains in 1869.

When Bernard sent Devin his account of the October 20 battle, he wrote of Cochise: "I do not think I exaggerate the fact, to say that we are contending with one of the most intelligent hostile Indians on the continent."

Bernard wanted the world to see him as a hero, one who convinced the dangerous Cochise to put aside his hatred of the Army and turn to peace. For the 1861 events, Bascom became the betrayer of Cochise, and the U.S. Army escaped responsibility.

Beginning in 1867, Cochise indicated to the Army that he wanted to negotiate peace. The next year, he sent word to Devin that if the Army agreed to a truce, Cochise would "not only remain at peace but be responsible for [protection of] the overland road and stock in its vicinity." Four years and many raids later, Brig. Gen. Oliver O. Howard

finally worked out a treaty with Cochise. By that time, Bernard was in California, fighting in the Modoc War.

Cochise retired to the Chiricahua Reservation, where he died in 1874. His body is believed to be buried in the Dragoon Mountains in an area known today as "Cochise Stronghold."

When Bernard died, in 1903, his body was buried in Arlington National Cemetery, a cemetery the government created in 1864 due the bloody Civil War and cemeteries growing overcrowded with the bodies of soldiers. Bernard's military exploits were extolled in the book, *One Hundred and Three Fights and Scrimmages*.

Bascom, who died in 1862 at the hands of Confederates in the Civil War, was buried in a New Mexico cemetery at Fort Craig. When the post closed in 1885, all of the bodies were reburied at Santa Fe National Cemetery. Bascom's grave could not be identified, so, if his body made it there at all, it lies beneath one of the unknown markers.

Nearly 150 years after Bascom's death

Nearly 150 years after Bascom's death, Twitter would light up with a "this day in the past" tweet: "4/24/1836 George Bascom born (d. 1862). Arrested Chief Cochise (the Bascom Affair), who escaped. This arrest triggered the Apache Wars." The black legend persists.

Doug Hocking grew up on the Jicarilla Apache Reservation in New Mexico and served as an Armored Cavalry officer. Writing from the land of Cochise, he continues work on a biography of Tom Jeffords. Hocking's published fiction includes Massacre at Point of Rocks and Mystery of Chaco Canyon.



Theophilus G. Steward (back row, far left) reported for duty at the 25th U.S. Infantry in 1891 and continued in uniform until 1907. He was a model chaplain as well as a skilled author. His literary efforts included numerous articles, such as "Starving Laborers and the 'Hired Soldier,'" for The United Services, in October 1895, and books, such as The Colored Regulars in the United States Army and Active Service; or Religious Work Among U.S. Soldiers. During the Spanish-American War, the versatile Steward recruited more blacks for the military.

– COURTESY NATIONAL ARCHIVES AND RECORDS ADMINISTRATION –



SOLDIERS OF THE (ROSS

uring an era of official segregation in the U.S. Army, chaplains ministered to both black and white Union regiments fighting in the Civil War. Nearly two decades passed before the Regular Army followed suit, for motives that were as much practical as they were religious.

Many enlisted men in the post-Civil War Army were illiterate. This particularly proved true for blacks who had been enslaved in the American South, where paranoia and prejudice led to laws that prohibited their formal education. As an early regimental history of the 9th U.S. Cavalry reported, "...the enlisted men were totally uneducated; few indeed could read and scarcely any were able to write even their own names."

To address this challenge, the 1866 congressional legislation that created four black infantry units and two black cavalry outfits included the hiring of regimental chaplains to provide both religious and educational duties for the enlisted men. The religious tradition of black martial congregation, unfortunately, was ignored, at first, nor did the Army attempt to include black clergymen as chaplains who understood that tradition.

But in 1884, the first step to rectifying that lack occurred with the commissioning of Henry V. Plummer, as chaplain of the 9th U.S. Cavalry. Born on June 30, 1844, Plummer was an enslaved field hand in Prince George's County, Maryland. His status changed when the Civil War offered a means to break his chains of bondage. Plummer joined the U.S. Navy, serving for about 16 months until his honorable discharge in the summer of 1865. By then, he had learned to read and write.

Plummer continued his education as best he could, when not carrying out his duties as a night watchman in a Washington D.C. post office. He managed to save some of his meager salary from this job and his outside income as a political worker, which enabled him to become a student at Wayland Seminary. Before, during and after his course of study at the seminary, he served as a Baptist pastor or as a missionary in both Maryland and Washington, D.C.

Based upon these varied experiences, Plummer secured letters of recommendation from numerous clergymen. Noted abolitionist author Frederick Douglass supported Plummer's bid for a chaplaincy in a black regiment. When white Chaplain Charles C. Pierce resigned from the 9th Cavalry, Plummer found his chance. He reported to his first military post, Fort Riley, in Kansas.

Upon his arrival, the July 12, 1884, edition of the local newspaper *The Junction City Union* noted the clergyman, "well merits the office given to him."

The first
Buffalo Soldier
chaplain lights
the path for
others, despite
a dishonorable
discharge.

BY JOHN LANGELLIER

In 1895, George W. Prioleau took over the chaplain role at Fort Robinson in Nebraska. After two decades with the 9th Cavalry, he transferred to the 10th Cavalry and



ended his military career, in 1920, as chaplain of the 25th U.S. Infantry. He is shown here with his family, who traveled with him throughout his military career.

COURTESY ANTHONY POWELL COLLECTION -

"...patriotism and devotion to duty, counts for naught against falsehood and prejudice in the regiment under the present regime."

At Fort Riley, Plummer found ample work. Not only was he the chaplain,

but also he served as superintendent of post schools and as manager of the fort's bakery. His first year in Kansas passed with considerable success in all these areas of responsibility. Plummer drew favorable attention

from an Army-Navy Journal correspondent, who had attended one of the chaplain's services, where he heard, "one of the best sermons and prayers" he could remember from any preacher.

In 1885, Plummer transferred to Fort Robinson in Nebraska, the headquarters of the Department of the Platte, which stretched along the Platte River in Nebraska, Idaho, Utah and Wyoming Territories. This period of his military life allowed him to focus on the educational needs of his soldier-students. He made recommendations for adequate funds to provide supplies and equipment, as well as establish a "Bureau of Education and Literature," to create an Army-wide standard for books and furnishings in the post schools and libraries. He also recommended that the military require illiterate enlisted men to attend school during the long winter evenings.

Favorable opinions of the chaplain continued. In May 1892, Fort Robinson commander Lt. Col. George B. Sanford remarked that the uniquely large church attendance at the post could be attributed to the "efficient manner in which the chaplain carries out his work."

Plummer also crusaded against liquor, but alcohol, unfortunately, contributed to the end of

his military service. On June 2, 1894, the chaplain took part in a promotion celebration at the quarters of Sgt. Maj. Jeremiah Jones, where Plummer allegedly drank liquor, used vulgar language and manifested other traits of disgraceful conduct. These complaints came from Saddler Sgt. Robert Benjamin, a soldier whom Plummer had occasionally disciplined for failure to perform duties at Fort Riley's bakery. Perhaps more damning was the accusation that Plummer had made waves with the post commander at Fort Robinson.

Both that officer, Lt. Col. Reuben F. Bernard, and the regimental commander, Col. James Biddle, came to view the clergyman as a disruptive force. They suspected, but had no evidence, that Plummer had written articles in a Nebraska newspaper about "racial injustices" experienced by black troops and that he was behind the distribution of a circular to the troops speaking out against discrimination in the nearby civilian town of Crawford, in 1893, after black soldier Charles Diggs had escaped a lynch mob in Crawford by fleeing to Fort Robinson. Signed "500 Men With the Bullet or the Torch," the broadside warned Crawford citizens, "...if you persist we will repeat the horrors of San Domingo—we will reduce your homes and fireside to ashes and send your guilty souls to hell."

Charging that Plummer was creating a "disturbing element" within the command, Plummer's superiors accused him of conduct unbecoming an officer. After an 11-day court

> martial, Plummer was found guilty and dismissed from the service. Plummer responded to his dismissal: "I cannot help to remember...that patriotism and devotion to duty, counts for naught against falsehood and prejudice in the regiment under the present regime."

Fortunately, Reverend Plummer's fate did not end opportunities for black chaplains. During the remaining decades of the late 19th century, four other black chaplains followed in his footsteps: Allen

> Allensworth, who served from 1886 to 1906; Theophilus G. Steward, who served from 1891 to 1907; George W. Prioleau, who served from 1895 to 1920; and William T. Anderson, who served from 1897 to 1910.

Allen Allensworth dons the elegant dark blue overcoat that was regulation wear for U.S. Army officers during the last decades of the 19th century. Enslaved before the Civil War like the Reverend Plummer, Allensworth completed his degree in divinity and secured the chaplain position for the 24th Infantry. While at Fort Bayard, New Mexico, he wrote one of the first Army manuals on education for enlisted men.

- TRUE WEST ARCHIVES

In 1884, Henry V.
Plummer became the spiritual leader of the 9th U.S. Cavalry. He eventually fell prey to regimental politics and prejudice.

– COURTESY MOORLAND-SPINGARN RESEARCH CENTER, HOWARD UNIVERSITY –

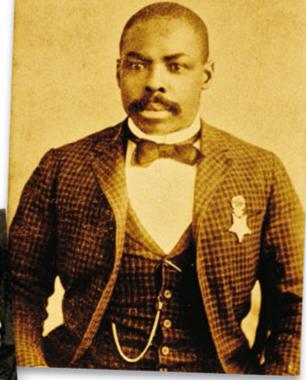
Four years after Plummer's dismissal, a black chaplain made it to the top of the chain—at least, temporarily. When the 10th Cavalry was sent to Cuba in 1898, Anderson was left in charge of Fort Assiniboine in Montana, making him the first black to command a U.S. Army post. When his replacement arrived in June, Chaplain Anderson joined his outfit overseas.

These remarkable Christian soldiers watched over their military flocks. In many ways, their influence as moral models and mentors helped pave the way for renowned spiritual leaders and civil rights champions, such as the Reverend Martin Luther King Jr., who followed a trail blazed by these pioneer martial ministers.

John Langellier received his PhD in military history from Kansas State University. After a 45-year career in public history, he retired in Tucson, Arizona, in 2015. He is the author of dozens of books, including *Fighting for Uncle Sam: Blacks in the Frontier Army*, due out in early 2016.

Corporal Isaiah Mays was among Chaplain Allen Allensworth's 24th Infantry congregation. Mays received America's highest military decoration, the Medal of Honor, for his valor during the Wham military payroll robbery in Arizona in 1889.

- TRUE WEST ARCHIVES -



The troops who found solace and education from black chaplains included these senior non-commissioned officers of the 9th Cavalry, from Chaplain Henry V. Plummer's ministry. They are gathered here for the funeral of their regimental commander, Col. Edward Hatch, who died in 1889. (Back row, from left): First Sgt. George Wilson; First Sgt. David Badie; First Sgt. Thomas Shaw; Sgt. Nathan Fletcher. (Front row, from left): Chief Trumpeter Stephen Taylor; Sgt. Edmund McKenzie; Sgt. Robert Burley; Sgt. Zekiel Sykes.

- COURTESY UNITED STATES MILITARY ACADEMY LIBRARY -

By Mark Boardman

Maps & Graphics by Gus Walker

THE DALTONS Fact or fiction?



Legend says the five Dalton Gang members tied their horses to the iron gas pipe before they tried to rob two banks at once, in Coffeyville, Kansas, on October 5, 1892. They tied the horses in Death Alley, where Emmett Dalton's brothers ended up being killed.

Not true. Photos of the shoot-out scene document that the gang had tied the horses to a wooden fence. The bent pipe was reportedly scrap from the alley—placed at the gang's burial site as a sign of disrespect.

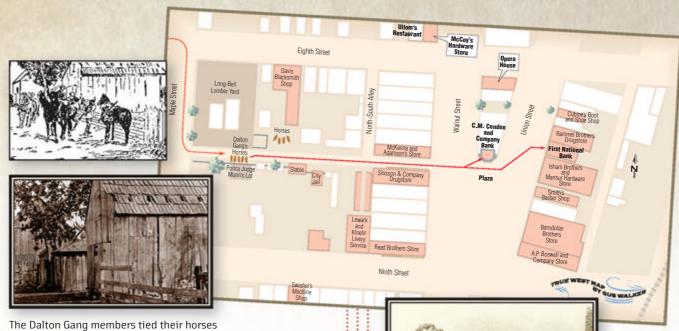
As if the lead in their bodies wasn't disrespectful enough....

For the grave site in Coffeyville, Kansas, gunfight survivor Emmett Dalton hired a stonecutter to carve the headstone for his partners in crime, in 1931, after serving 14 years in jail for the robbery that resulted in the deaths of two citizens. Dick Broadwell's body was buried in his family plot.

After citizens brought in Dick
Broadwell's body from the edge of
town, they rounded up the dead bandits
on top of a hay rack. They leaned the
bodies against a stable wall next to
the jail: (left to right) Bill Power, Bob
Dalton, Grat Dalton and Dick Broadwell.
Several versions of this setup were
photographed. One shows a rifle
thrown across the bodies, and another
reveals a young boy peering through
the hole in the stable wall behind
Powers's head.

- COURTESY ROBERT G. MCCUBBIN COLLECTION -





The Dalton Gang members tied their horses (see top illustration) to the above alley fence.
The jail (at far right) was on the south side of Death Alley.

- TRUE WEST ARCHIVES -



Within 24 hours, a crowd of 2,000 sightseers descended on Coffeyville to view the outlaws' bodies.

- TRUE WEST ARCHIVES -

Death Alley Aftermath

"They're all down," came the cry, as crowds of people left their doorways or arrived from blocks away. Describing the scene, the *Coffeyville Journal* reported: "Dead and dying horses and smoking Winchesters on the ground added to the horrors of the scene.... Excited men, weeping women and screaming children thronged the square."

The Terrible Tally

- 4 Number of outlaws killed
- 1 Number of citizens killed
- 1 Number of lawmen killed
- 2 Number of horses killed
- 4 Number of wounded citizens



A SHORT STORM

LUKE SHORT VS CHARLEY STORMS

ANOTHER MAN FOR BREAKFAST AT TOMBSTONE'S DEADLIEST ADDRESS



Luke Short pulls iron.
- ALL ILLUSTRATIONS BY BOB BOZE BELL -

BY BOB BOZE BELL

Based on the research of Jack DeMattos and Chuck Parsons

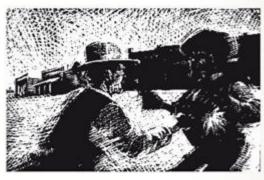
FEBRUARY 25, 1881

harley Storms has been playing faro since last night...and losing. As an Arizona morning dawns, a broke and drunk Storms takes out his frustration on the other patrons of Tombstone's Oriental Saloon. Storms turns to a faro dealer, making a move to slap the "insignificant little fellow, whom," Bat Masterson says, "[Storms] could slap in the face without expecting a return."

The insignificant little fellow turns out to be faro dealer Luke Short. While Short may be diminutive and mild mannered, he is also armed and dangerous.

Stepping between the two men, Masterson collars Storms and guides him outside, away from trouble. Masterson accompanies the woozy Storms up Fifth Street to the San Jose House where Storms is staying. While depositing Storms in his room, Masterson urges him to sleep it off.

Walking back to the Oriental, Masterson finds Short and others outside on the boardwalk, taking a break and talking in the midday sun (it is around noon). Masterson is telling Short that Storms is a "very decent sort of man," when Storms reappears, lurching out of the saloon. (Storms supposedly walked back to the saloon from his room and entered through the



As the gamblers grapple on Allen Street, Luke Short rams his pistol into Charley Storms's chest and fires.

north door. Not seeing the target of his wrath, he exited the front and went onto the sidewalk.)

Lunging between the two, Storms grabs Short by the arm, saying, "Come go with me."

As Storms tries to pull Short into the street, Storms pulls from his coat a cutdown .45 Colt, adding, "Are you as good a man as you were this morning?"

Instantly sensing the import of the situation, Short breaks free and ducks around the Oriental's corner awning post, while also pulling his own pistol. "Every bit as good," replies Short, as he sticks the muzzle of his pistol against Storms's heart and pulls the trigger. As the drunken gambler falls, Short shoots again.

Masterson later writes, "Storms was dead when he hit the ground."

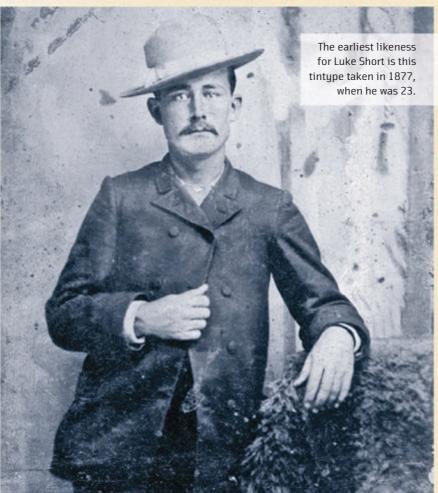


The Oriental Saloon in Tombstone, Arizona, as it appeared in 1932.

Charley Storms

A native of New Orleans, Louisiana, Charles S. Storms gambled throughout the California Gold Rush region. Some reports state he is at least 60 years old, has a wife and two kids in San Francisco, California, and has been hitting the gambling circuit with stops in Leadville, Colorado; Deadwood, South Dakota; and Virginia City, Nevada, among others. He lands in Tombstone after a stop in El Paso, Texas, and has been in town only a few days.





Tombstone's Deadliest Address

The intersection of Tombstone's Fifth and Allen Streets see an inordinate amount of violence in 1880 through 1882. Numerous shooting battles erupt within spitting distance of this notorious corner.

- Doc Holliday shoot it out with Milt Joyce in the Oriental on October 11, 1880.
- Curly Bill Brocius shoots Tombstone Marshal Fred White just down the street on October 28, 1880. (The "shooting at the moon" incident, which began this deadly encounter, happened as Curly Bill and others ran through this intersection, firing their pistols.)
- Virgil Earp gets shot in the back and side while crossing on December 28, 1881.
- Billy the Kid Claiborne is shot down on November 14, 1882, very close to where Charley Storms falls in 1881.

Several others die of knife wounds while near this intersection, and one poor sap in Corrigan's (just west of the Crystal Palace) gets shot over his "loud" shirt.

Aftermath: Odds & Ends

Luke Short was cleared of murder charges, and he left Arizona for good. Several sources said Short was acquitted in Tucson. Cochise County was founded by that time, though, which makes us wonder why he wasn't tried or held over in Tombstone?

Many editions of the Tombstone newspapers for the first part of 1881 were never archived, which makes it almost impossible to report details on this fight and its aftermath.

George W. Parsons's diary reports that on March 1, 1881, "Another man shot this a.m. about four o'clock and will probably die. One armed Kelly by McAllister. Oriental a regular slaughter house now. Much bad blood today. Pistols pulled. Games at Oriental closed by [Milt] Joyce. Warm weather."

The Phoenix Herald reported, three days later: "A slight fracus [sic] occured [sic] in Tombstone, Sunday night last, owing to one misunderstanding between one Lyons, (better known as Dublin) who was a partner with the late C.S. Storm in the gambling business, and Wyatt Earp. Lyons was ordered to leave town, which he did." This newspaper is a recent find. Some Earp experts doubt its authenticity, yet it is an intriguing find, especially if C.S. Storm refers to Charley Storms.

We recommend: The Notorious Luke Short: Sporting Man of the Wild West by Jack DeMattos and Chuck Parsons, published by University of North Texas Press



Doc Holliday



UNSUNG

LITTLE-KNOWN CHARACTERS OF THE OLD WEST

TOM AUGHERTON

Chalkley

SHERIFF BEESON SOOTHED THE SAVAGE BEAST WITH HIS BRAND OF COWBOY MUSIC.



CHALKLEY McArtor "Chalk" Beeson, the last of seven kids from Quaker parents Samuel and Martha, was born in Salem, Ohio, on April 24, 1848. The family later settled near Albion, Iowa, in 1855. In 1867, 19-year-old Chalk left home, arriving in booming Denver, Colorado, a year later.

Settling in Denver, he spent time driving a stagecoach before starting a ranch near Kit Carson, Colorado. On January 18, 1872, Beeson played violin in a band, performing at a grand ball for the Grand Duke Alexis A. Romanov, who was in Denver with his entourage after his famous buffalo hunt with Bill Cody and Gens. Phil Sheridan and George Custer in North Platte, Nebraska. Custer heard Beeson boasting about a buffalo herd near his ranch, and with Sheridan's approval, a second hunt was arranged for January 20-21 with Beeson as a guide. Papers reported that the up to 40 bison killed were wilder than the bunch in Nebraska.

Beeson left Colorado for Kansas, purchased a cattle ranch near Dodge City, and after financial success, married Ida M. Gause and had three sons. Beeson found a partner and bought an existing saloon, creating the Long Branch, named for an Eastern sporting resort. The tavern was a distinctive destination in Dodge for selective customers: no dancing, no fraternizing with women in private rooms, no shoot-em-ups and only the best liquors offered. Bartenders wore silk vests; the bar was carved wood under a large mirror and steer horns; and the walls were covered with paintings depicting female nudes and horses.

If liquor alone could not adequately seduce, patrons quickly fell under the spell of its five-piece orchestra. In 1878, Beeson put together his first brass band. Three years and three bands later, with sponsorship from local cattlemen, he had a 25-member group known as the Dodge City Cowboy Band.

Chalk Beeson (standing, far left) and his Dodge City Cowboy Band received financial support from cattlemen and merchants. The group won talent contests, serenaded the governor and appeared at the National Cattlemen's Convention in St. Louis, Missouri, later playing at President Benjamin Harrison's 1889 inauguration in Washington, D.C.

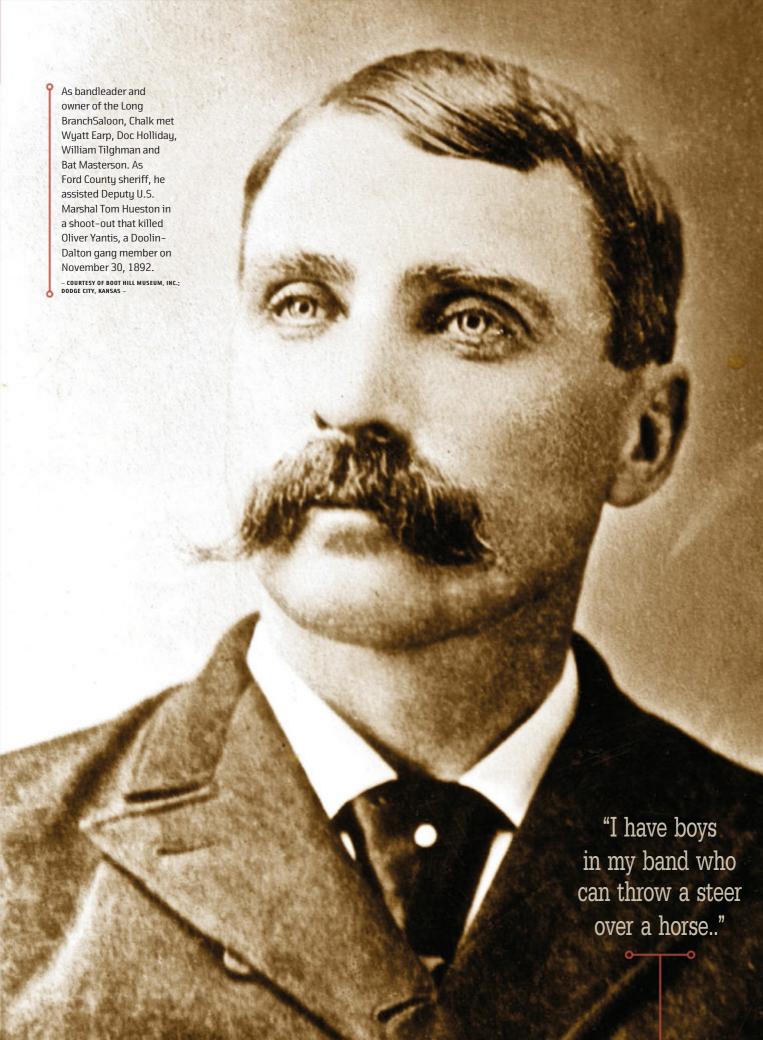
The musicians expertly played brass instruments, but it was their clothing that attracted fans—flannel shirts, gray cowboy hats, leather chaps, neck bandannas, ivoryhandled revolvers and spurs. Their bandleader conducted with a six-shot revolver. When asked if it was loaded, he'd wryly explain that his "baton" was loaded to "kill the first man who strikes a false note." The band performed nightly, attracting large crowds.

The band qleader was once asked if his band members were "real cowboys." Although none were from Dodge City, Beeson touted that all were old cowboys who had spent years on Western ranches: "I have boys in my band who can throw a steer over a horse."

Beeson became one of the most respected men in Dodge City. He was Ford County sheriff from 1892-'96, and a member of the Kansas Legislature from 1903-'08.

Chalk Beeson died August 8, 1912, at age 64, after his spooked horse threw him forward onto his saddle horn causing internal hemorrhaging. He is buried in Maple Grove Cemetery in Dodge City.

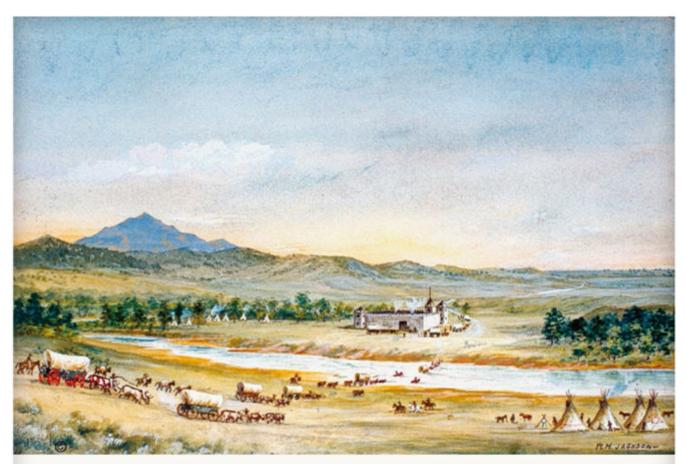
Tom Augherton, an Arizona-based freelance writer, suggests that visitors to Dodge City, Kansas, tour the Boot Hill Museum, *BootHill.org*, to learn more about Chalkley Beeson, and go to *VisitDodgeCity.org* for the The Dodge City Cowboy Band's summer schedule.



BY CANDY MOULTON

WAGONS HO!

Brave souls traveled west 175 years ago, blazing what would later be the Oregon Trail.



Fort Laramie, Wyoming, which replaced the earlier fur trade post of Fort John, served trail travelers.

- BY WILLIAM HENRY JACKSON, COURTESY NPS -

oseph Meek and Robert
Newell knew the landscape
of the West by 1840, since
both had been working
beaver streams throughout
the Rockies and beyond for
more than a dozen years.
They would make their own history by taking
the first wagons to Oregon late that fall, using
vehicles that had been discarded by other
travelers to the Pacific Northwest.

Earlier that year Joel P. Walker, a man who had helped to pioneer the Santa Fe Trail,

set off from Fort Osage for Oregon Country with his wife and five children and three missionaries and their wives. They traveled with an American Fur Company brigade across what would later become Kansas, Nebraska and Wyoming. The brigade, led by Andrew Drips, had sixty pack miles, a number of two-wheeled carts and some wagons.

When the group had crossed South Pass, the Walker family and missionaries Philo B. Littlejohn, Harvey Clark and Alvin T. Smith, guided by mountain man Robert Newell, continued west to Fort Hall, a trading post of the Hudson's Bay Company. There they abandoned their wagons, continuing on to The Dalles by using mules to haul their goods. Ultimately they reached Vancouver, where HBC Factor Dr. John McLoughlin agreed to provide them with supplies for their first year of living in the region.

By taking his family to Oregon, Joel Walker earned distinction for helping to break ground for overland migration, and the first transcontinental trail.

Missionaries and Mountain Men

Four years earlier, in 1836, the missionary couples of Dr. Marcus and Narcissa Whitman, and Henry and Eliza Spalding had taken a similar journey with a trading brigade from Missouri to the fur trapper rendezvous. The missionaries continued to Fort Hall and ultimately rode horses to the missions they established in the Columbia Basin near Lapwai (Spalding) and Fort Walla Walla (Whitman).

This early travel by families over what was becoming the Oregon Trail had a common theme: families or missionary couples joined a fur trade brigade for the first half of the journey, using some carts to haul goods as far as Fort Hall, and

beyond that point they relied on horses or pack mules to carry supplies.

The 1840 rendezvous on the Upper Green River was the last of an era and trappers were

recognizing that the West was beginning to change. They had seen the early families and missionaries pass through the country. Some, like Jim Bridger, began thinking of ways they could capitalize on

Historical Marker

Joseph L. Meek began farming on the

Tualatin Plains of the Willamette

Valley near Oregon City after arriving

there in December of 1840. He became

an important leader in the territory

a place he knew would be in the "path of the emigrants."

19 years old in 1829 when he signed on with William Sublette's Rocky Mountain Fur Company. He spent the next eleven years trapping and trading through-

A Virginian by birth, Joe Meek was

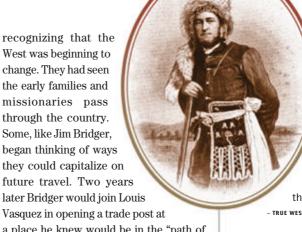
out the Rocky Mountains. He had traveled to California in 1833 with Joseph Walker (Joel Walker's brother), fought Blackfeet, battled grizzly bears, married three

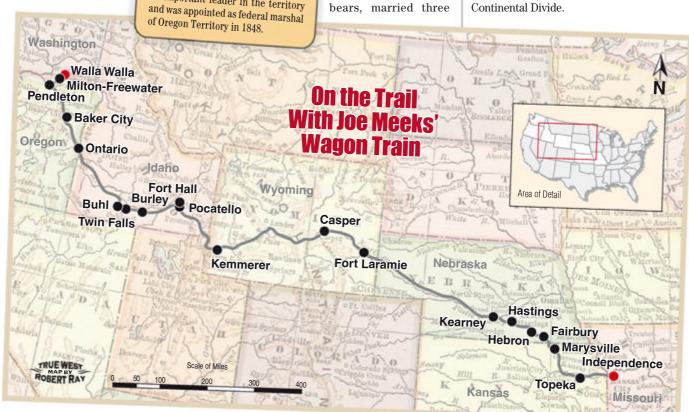
Joseph L. Meek came west with the Rocky Mountain Fur Company in 1829, trapped and traded for William Sublette for more than a decade, took the first wagons over the Oregon Trail in 1840, and became a leader in the Oregon Territory.

- TRUE WEST ARCHIVES -

Indian women, but also recognized the coming end of the fur trap-per era.

Following the rendezvous in 1840, Meek and Newell, who had been born in Ohio in 1807, guided their families to Fort Hall, taking 17 days to make the journey. There they decided to continue on westward. Unlike the earlier travelers to Oregon Country, they took the wagons Newell had purchased from the Walker party and traveled along the Snake River, deep into Oregon Territory, which at that time started at the Continental Divide.







Independence, Missouri, to Fort Laramie, Wyoming

The mountain men did not begin their journey along the Missouri River in 1840, but to understand the trail they forged, that is where we will begin our trip since it is where nearly all Oregon-bound travelers over the next two decades started their journeys into the West. The National Frontier Trail Center in Independence, Missouri, provides a good overview of the trail to Oregon, and you will be able to follow the route west from this point by

watching for the Oregon Trail auto tour route signs. To better guide you, pick up a copy of the auto tour route booklets prepared by the National Park Service. These guidebooks are free and include a variety of photographs, maps and some quotes from pioneers.

From Independence, travel west across Kansas to Fort Kearny, a pioneer-era post established in 1847 near Kearney, Nebraska. This site became extremely important for later pioneer travelers, as a location where

When Robert Newell and Joseph Meek set out for Oregon Country in 1841, they took wagons that had been abandoned at Fort Hall and drove them to Fort Walla Walla. A replica of Fort Hall

is in Pocatello, Idaho. The original post was on a site now on the Fort Hall reservation of the Shoshone-Bannock tribes.

- COURTESY NATIONAL ARCHIVES, PHOTO NO. 57-HS-119/PEG OWENS, IDAHO TOURISM -

they could rest and resupply. But our journey continues across Nebraska to Fort Laramie, which has roots reaching back to the fur trade era.

Initially called Fort John, the post served the American Fur Company as a place for early fur trappers to negotiate trades of furs for supplies. It also served as an important emigrant trading location. In 1847 it became an American military post, in part to protect travelers on the road leading to Oregon.

In 1840 there were no other permanent posts anywhere in what is now Wyoming (Fort Bridger began operations in 1842). The next supply and provisioning point was at Fort Hall, the fur post established by the Hudson's Bay Company. Located in today's



Thousand Springs was one of the major landmarks for trail travelers to Oregon Country.

- COURTESY PEG OWENS, IDAHO TOURISM -

eastern Idaho, Fort Hall was in Shoshone and Bannock country. While travelers had already crossed prairie, plains and the Continental Divide, from Fort Hall west, they still had a difficult journey to undertake before reaching the end of the trail.

On September 27, 1840, Newell and Meek along with their families, departed from Fort Hall. Newell recalled: "I concluded to hitch up and try the much-dreaded job of taking a wagon to Oregon...we put out with three wagons; Joseph L. Meek drove my wagon. In a few days, we began to realize the difficult task before us, and found that the continued crashing of sage under our wagons, which was in many places higher than the mules' backs, was no joke. Seeing our animals begin to fail, we began to lighten up, finally threw away our wagon beds, and were quite sorry we had undertaken the job. All the consolation we had was that we broke the first sage on

the road, and were too proud to eat anything but dried salmon skins after our provisions had become exhausted."

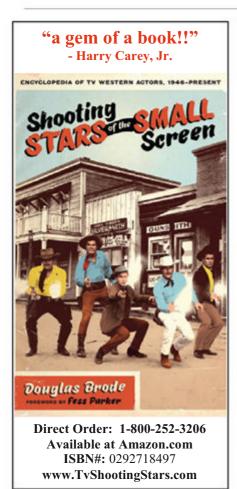
Fort Hall, Idaho, to Walla-Walla, Washington

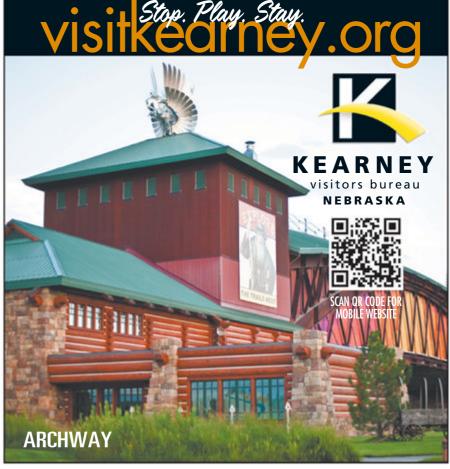
The road to Oregon from Fort Hall across Idaho goes to Twin Falls and then follows the Snake River. US 30 from Twin Falls through Burley and Buhl goes along the path the emigrants took, and offers views of the Thousand Springs before it follows the Snake River to Glenns Ferry, site of the important Three Island Crossing of the Snake. The 19th-century travelers left the Snake River at Farewell Bend, in

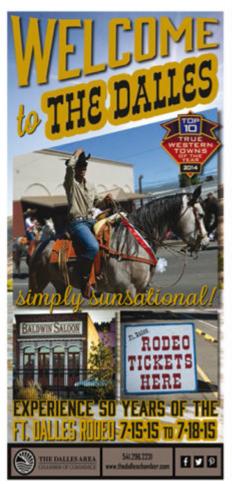
present-day Oregon. But before you reach that point, make a stop in Ontario, Oregon, at the Four Rivers Cultural Center, which interprets the history of the emigrants and the American Indians who have long had connections to this region.

Thousands of emigrants would ultimately follow the route Joe Meek and Robert Newell took in 1840. The Oregon Trail Interpretive Center on Flagstaff Hill near Baker City, Oregon, not only provides













Oregon Trail pioneers Joe Meek and Robert Newell trapped in tributaries of the Green River, and may have seen these bluffs in their travels before taking the first wagons over the road to Oregon in 1840.

- BY WILLIAM HENRY JACKSON/LIBRARY OF CONGRESS COURTESY -

"The 1840

rendezvous on the

Upper Green River

was the last of an

era, and trappers

were recognizing

that the West

was beginning

to change."

information about the journey and the people who undertook it, but is also a site from where you can clearly see the trail ruts emigrant wagons left behind. For the best views of the trail remnants, try to time your visit in the early morning or late afternoon, when long shadows make the swales more prominent.

Meek drove his wagon through this country and on to the mission that had been established by the Whitmans. As

Newell recalled, "In a rather rough and reduced state, we arrived at Dr. Whitman's mission station, in the Walla Walla valley, where we were met by that hospitable man, and kindly made welcome, and feasted accordingly."

After a day or two of rest and respite at the mission, Meek and Newell continued on to Fort Walla Walla. Newell wrote, "We were kindly received by Mr. P. C. Pambrun, chief trader of

the Hudson's Bay Company, and superintendent of that post."

This small wagon train—which had successfully been brought from Missouri to Fort Hall by the missionaries, and then driven from Fort Hall to Fort Walla Walla by the intrepid fur trappers—was the first to cross the continent. Just as Narcissa Whitman and Eliza Spalding had proven in 1836, this train made it clear that the great overland migration could be completed by families carrying their household goods.

Trails Blazers Settle California and Oregon

In 1841 John Bidwell and John Bartleson

organized a wagon train they intended to take to California, but upon reaching Fort Hall, they split the party and a number of travelers instead headed to Oregon. Just two years later the first large wagon train of emigrants traveled west with Jesse Applegate leading 1,000 people with 120 wagons from Missouri to Oregon.

Back in 1840, once Newell and Meek had reached Fort Walla Walla, they rested for a period

and then took the river trail toward Western Oregon, ultimately arriving in the Willamette Valley in December. Newell and Meek would become important early leaders in organizing the provisional government for Oregon Territory.

Wagons have been following the trail to the Oregon Territory since Joseph Meek and Robert Newell took the first wagons over the route in 1840. Re-enactors continue to travel by wagon train in Idaho, such as these involved in a celebration of Three Island Crossing.

-COURTESY IDAHO TOURISM -

Meek's young daughter, Helen Mar Meek, was three years old when the family first reached the Whitman Mission. At age 10, in 1847 Helen was at the Whitman Mission under the care of Dr. Whitman as she suffered from measles. When Cayuse Indians attacked the Whiteman Mission on November 29, 1847, they killed many at the site including the Whitmans and Helen Meek. Following the attack at the Whitman Mission, Joe Meek

organized a delegation from Oregon Country and went to Washington, D.C., to ask for protection and the designation of Oregon as a territory. He had

Oxen have long been used to draw wagons across the Oregon Trail, from the days of the Meek and Walker wagon train to modern-day re-enactments.

some influence there in part because President James K. Polk's wife was Meek's cousin. Once the territory was established, Meek had a role in maintaining law and order.

Candy Moulton is the author of Wagon Wheels: A Contemporary Journey on the Oregon Trail, co-written with Ben Kern and published by High Plains Press, and the producer/writer of the Spur Award-winning film In Pursuit of a Dream about the Oregon Trail. She is a lifetime member of the Oregon-California Trails Association.

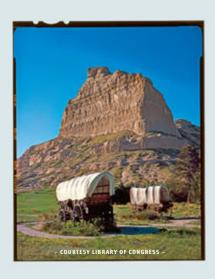




A tour of the Whitman Mission National Historic Site will give visitors an understanding of the tragic class of cultures that caused the Whitman Massacre.

-COURTESY NPS.GOV-

--Side Roads--



PLACES TO VISIT, CELEBRATIONS & EVENTS

Places to Visit: National Frontier Trail Interpretive Center, Independence, MO; Scotts Bluff National Monument (above), Gering, NE; Fort Kearny State Historical Park, Fort Kearny, NE; Fort Laramie National Historic Site, Fort Laramie, WY; Museum of the Mountain Man, Pinedale, WY; Fort Bridger State Historic Site, Fort Bridger, WY; Fort Hall Interpretive Site, Pocatello, ID; Four Rivers Cultural Center, Ontario, OR; Oregon Trail Interpretive Center, Baker City, OR; Whitman Mission National Historic Site, Walla Walla, WA; Fort Walla Walla Museum, Walla Walla, WA.

GOOD EATS & SLEEPS

Good Grub: Ophelia's, Independence, MO; Grill and Restaurant, Fort Laramie, WY; Virgil's at Cimmyotti's, Pendleton, OR.

Good Lodging: Hawthorn B&B, Independence, MO; Fort Laramie American Inn, Fort Laramie, WY; Shoshone-Bannock Hotel, Fort Hall, ID; Hotel 43, Boise, ID; Geiser Grand Hotel, Baker City, OR; The Marcus Whitman Hotel, Walla Walla, WA.

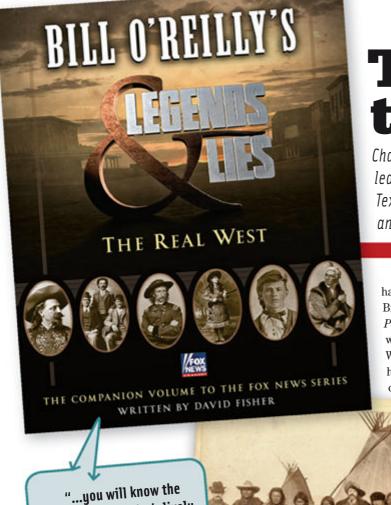
GOOD BOOKS/FILM & TV

Good Books: The River of the West: The Adventures of Joe Meek Volume One; The Mountain Years (Classics of the Fur Trade Series) by Frances Fuller Victor; Joe Meek, The Merry Mountain Man: A Biography, by Stanley Vestal; Oregon Trail by William E. Hill.

Films/TV: The Big Trail (20th Century Fox); Bend of the River (Universal); The Oregon Trail (20th Century Fox); The Way West (United Artists); Seven Alone (Doty-Dayton Releasing); Meek's Cutoff (Oscilloscope Pictures); In Pursuit of a Dream, (Oregon-California Trails Association DVD).

WESTERN 1

BOOK REVIEWS EDITOR: STUART ROSEBROOK



Trails to the Truth

Challenging the Western legends, business leaders who shaped the West, the rise of urban Texas, an epitaph to the Earps and Clantons, and a mythic tale of treasure in the desert.

Historians and aficionados of the American West must have been surprised when they first heard that FOX News's Bill O'Reilly was going to follow up his latest book, *Killing Patton*, and his FOX television production, *Killing Jesus*, with a docudrama series and companion book on the Old West. I wasn't. I thought it was a brilliant idea. O'Reilly and his team know that the history of the American West is culturally popular across generations and throughout

the world. His choice is revealing because it is counterintuitive to the current Hollywood film and television studios that don't seem to remember—or understand—that popularity. Best-selling and highly versatile author David Fisher was honoredand at first surprised—to be called at the eleventh hour to write the television series' companion book Bill O'Reilly's Legends: The Real West (Henry Holt and Company, \$32). Fisher said, "I love history, and the opportunity to write about the American West and work with O'Reilly's team was a very positive experience—as well as

challenging to write the book in a short turnaround."

Fisher's assignment was to adapt O'Reilly's interpretation of the series' 12 biographical segments about iconic Western men and women, into a well-researched, heavily illustrated, readable book that met his own standard—as

and unique past...."

David Fisher's Bill

truth about America's lively

O'Reilly's Legends & Lies: The Real West, re-examines the

extraordinary lives of iconic

Westerners like showman and entrepreneur Buffalo Bill Cody (center), seen here on a visit to the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation January 16, 1891, a few weeks after the Battle of Wounded Knee.

- JOHN C.H. GRABILL/COURTESY LIBRARY OF CONGRESS -

THE YOUTH'S COMPANION BIRTSPRIES



KIT CARSON .. HUNTER AND TRAPPER .. IMPLACABLE FOE OF HOSTILE INDIANS BUT FRIEND AND PROTECTOR OF THOSE THAT WERE PEACEFUL .. TRAIL MAKER .PATHFINDER .. CUIDE .. INCOMPARABLE SCOUT AND LOYAL AND EFFICIENT SOLDIER .. THE LAST OF THE OLD FRONTIERS MEN AND ONE OF THE CREATEST

well as O'Reilly's. Fisher, a renowned author and journalist, who has published over 40 books, including co-authoring Mike Earp's *U.S. Marshals: Inside America's Most Storied Law Enforcement Agency*, knew that these biographies would receive critical scrutiny from experts who have spent decades researching the Western figures. In his introduction O'Reilly writes that the reader "will know the truth about America's lively and unique past. You will have also learned about some lies that still circulate today. Debunking falsehoods is a major theme here."

According to Fisher, *True West*'s website archive was a primary resource for his research, and many times, an article on the site was the final arbiter of quotes and conclusions on his cornucopia of Old West icons. Equally impressive is Fisher's research, with many of the conclusions reflecting the opinions of *True West* contributors, including historians and authors Chris Enss, Dr. Paul Andrew Hutton, W.C. James, Hampton Sides, Marshall Trimble, Victoria Wilcox and WWA President Sherry Monahan, who were all interviewed as expert commentators for the series.

At press time, *Legends & Lies* had been at or near the top of the *New York Times* hardcover non-fiction best-seller list since it hit bookstores in early April. A lot of controversy had rumbled through the airwaves and social media about the book and series. (Some criticisms are highly justified, like the incorrect photo of Doc Holliday on page 218, as well as the suggestion that Pat Garrett did not kill Billy

The enigma of becoming a living legend is not just a modern issue for celebrities, concludes David Fisher in *Bill O'Reilly's Legends & Lies: The Real West.* For example, frontiersman Kit Carson struggled with the fame thrust upon him by the dime novelists who exaggerated his courageous actions in the West.

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the Kid.) But like *The West: An Illustrated History*—the companion book to Ken Burns's 1996 PBS series, by Geoffrey C. Ward and David Duncan—*Legends & Lies* has achieved the highest profile of any 2015 book about the history of the American West. Whether you wholeheartedly agree with the series and book's conclusions—or vehemently disagree—*Legends & Lies* has brought the West alive—the good, the bad and the ugly—for a new generation.

-Stuart Rosebrook

IF BILLY COULD TALK

Given the sheer number of Old West icons and historical events that Bill O'Reilly's production team decided to re-analyze for a broad popular television—and reading—audience, it is a wonder they get as much right as they do. In fact, we'd challenge them on these errors, because, if Billy could talk he'd tell them:

- In the Billy the Kid chapter, Tunstall was not found dead "next to his buckboard," The Kid did not learn of the killing later, he was on the scene.
- Pat Garrett and his posse brought Billy and crew in to Las Vegas in deep snow. The book runs a painting of the posse arriving, with dust flying. The caption says, "This 1880 photograph shows the posse arriving in Santa Fe with its captives." Wrong twice, it's not a photo and they are not arriving in Santa Fe.
- Even when they are right, they often end up being wrong: a caption on a spurious Billy the Kid Wanted Poster (\$5,000) mentions the fact that "most of them were created to take advantage of his fame after his death." This is spot on—the one pictured is from the 1970s. Then the authors step in it by adding "The facts here are accurate." No, his actual \$500 reward "poster" was published in the Santa Fe New Mexican, not the Las Vegas Gazette as cited in the caption.
- We get the tired, and untrue, chestnut that Billy told the judge in Mesilla, "You can go to hell, hell,"

Which is where the editors at Henry Holt, should be sent for not hiring a competent fact checker.

ROUGH DRAFTS



A century ago, World War I was raging across Europe. Revolution had erupted in Mexico and China, and Ireland and Russia would soon boil over in revolt as well. Since the end of the Civil War, the United States, fueled by its industrial revolution, had been aggressively broadening its hegemony beyond the Western Hemisphere, challenging European and Asian powers for greater access to markets for its raw and manufactured goods. As President Woodrow Wilson struggled to keep America out of the Great War, the Western United States found itself in economic, industrial and population booms, which transformed the Wild West into the Modern West.

I highly recommend three recent books that reveal how we still struggle nationally with the ramifications of the modernization of the West—and what our place in the wildness of our Western lands means to all of us:

Ben Masters' Unbranded: Four Men and Sixteen Mustangs, Three Thousand Miles across the American West (Texas A&M University Press, \$40).

David Gessner's All the Wild that Remains: Edward Abbey, Wallace Stegner, and the American West (W.W. Norton & Co., \$26.95).

Les Standiford's Water to the Angels: William Mulholland, His Monumental Aqueduct and the Rise of Los Angeles (Ecco, \$28.99).

-Stuart Rosebrook





OUT

WHERE

VEST

PRILIP P. ARICHUT

The biographies of bold businessmen who built the West in Philip F. Anshutz's *Out Where the West Begins* include a profile of Great Northern Railroad tycoon James J. Hill, pictured here (sixth from the left) circa 1910 with the first locomotive in Minnesota, the William Crooks.

- COURTESY LIBRARY OF CONGRESS -

ENTREPRENEURS OR ROBBER BARONS?

Denver billionaire investor, philanthropist, wildcatter, telecommunications titan, and movie producer Philip F. Anschutz has written an outstanding book,

Out Where the West Begins: Profiles, Visions, & Strategies of Early Western Business Leaders (Cloud Camp Press, \$34.95). The hefty volume is a well-organized collection of historical narratives about 50 men who shaped the modern American West. The book's topics move from Early Trade and Commerce, Agriculture and Livestock, Railroads and

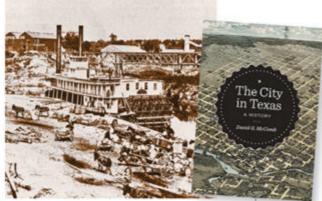
Transportation, Mineral Extraction, Manufacturing, Finance and Banking, to Entertainment and Communication. Among those profiled are Manuel Lisa, John Jacob Astor, Levi Strauss, Fred Harvey, Frederick Weyerhaeuser, Adolf Coors, A.P. Giannini and Buffalo Bill Cody. According to Anschutz, between 1800 and 1920, an amazing cast of economic innovators formed the foundation of the modern American West.

— Jack August, author of The Norton Trilogy

THE URBAN TEXAS

David G. McComb's *The City in Texas* (University of Texas Press, \$35) is an informative and moderately entertaining history of urban development in Texas, including fact-filled descriptions of the industries associated with those cities. It wanders at times. Writing of the retreat of the Mexican Army after the Texas Revolution, McComb quotes nine lines from the celebrated De la Peña "diary" to describe the mud encountered. Given the well-publicized factual and historical problems with this document, perhaps a





simple "it was very muddy" would have sufficed. It goes well as a resource with other histories of Texas such as T.R. Fehrenbach's *Lone Star*, and James Haley's *Passionate Nation*. —*William Groneman*, *author of* David Crockett: Hero of the Common Man

A TOMBSTONE SOLILOQUY

The story of the Earp Brothers and Doc Holliday and the events leading up to the street fight in Tombstone have inspired enough fiction and nonfiction to fill small libraries. That gives Mary Doria Russell's Steamboats like the St. Clair helped Houston's rise as a port city via the Buffalo Bayou to the seaport of Galveston, according to David G. McComb in *The City in Texas*.

- COURTESY HOUSTON PUBLIC LIBRARY -

Epitaph: A Novel of the O.K. Corral (Ecco, \$27.99) quite a bit of competition for the unofficial title of the best, but she earns it. Russell, whose

2011 novel *Doc* is hands-down the best fiction written about the dentist-turned-gunfighter (Victoria Wilcox's trilogy not excepted), has written an epic of 580 pages that leaves you wanting more. The depth and lyric of *Epitaph* lifts the characters and events of the Tombstone troubles out of the realm of genre fiction and into

literature.

—Allen Barra, *author of* Inventing Wyatt Earp: His Life and Many Legends

P) quite a pr the unbest, but l, whose

Mary Doria Russell's Epitaph:

A Navel of the O. K. Corrol

Mary Doria Russell's *Epitaph:*A Novel of the O.K. Corral
dramatically recounts the
historic events that led up to
the violent end of Billy Clanton,
Frank and Tom McLaury, and
Curly Bill Brocius and Johnny

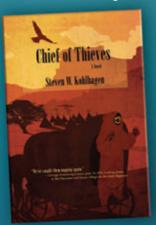
Ringo leading their funeral procession through the streets of Tombstone.

- COURTESY ARIZONA HISTORICAL SOCIETY -



CHIEF OF THIEVES

by award-winning author Steven W. Kohlhagen



Historical fiction, based on a factual group of 1862 con artists who successfully stole millions of today's dollars, then became cattle ranchers in Oregon and Wyoming, and ultimately met their respective fates at the Battle of the Little Bighorn.

"I've been looking forward to Steve Kohlhagen's next book and am not disappointed!" —Bernard Cornwell

Sequel to Where They Bury You, winner of "Best Western of 2014" National Indie Excellence Book Awards

~ Available at Amazon and Barnes & Noble ~

VISIT COWBOY COUNTRY



See where Butch and the gang hid out at the Hole-in-the-Wall and Outlaw Canyon.

Visit the site where the Johnson County Cattle War started on Powder River or tour Dull Knife Battlefield.

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MARSHALL TRIMBLE'S TOP FIVE ARIZONA HISTORY BOOKS



Arizona's Official State Historian Marshall Trimble was raised in Ash Fork, not far from Beale's Wagon Road, Route 66 and the storied Santa Fe rail line of the Super Chief. A self-proclaimed fan of Arizona history, folk music and baseball from an early age, Trimble has been sharing his passion for his home state in the classroom, at the campfire circle and in print, film, television and radio for over five decades. Recently retired from Scottsdale Community College, where he taught for 40 years, the

Arizona native says he "is busier than when I was teaching." The *True West* "Ask the Marshall" columnist did slow down long enough to receive the magazine's highest annual honor, the 2015 "True Westerner of the Year," statuette at the Tucson Festival of Books in early March.

In honor of the publication of his 22nd book, *Arizona Outlaws & Gunman*, (History Press, \$20), Marshall Trimble has shared with us his top five Arizona history books:

- Arizona: The Making of a State (Jo Baeza, White Mountain Publishing Co.): Jo Baeza's new book runs the wide gamut of Arizona's colorful history from outlaws and lawmen to empire builders, movers and shakers. There are great stories of lawmen such as Commodore Perry Owens, renegades like the Apache Kid, pioneers like Jack Swilling, the Pleasant Valley War, and boomtowns like Tombstone.
- **Wyatt Earp: The Life Behind the Legend** (Casey Tefertiller, John Wiley & Sons): There are a number of good books on Wyatt Earp, but most Western historians agree that Tefertiller's comprehensive biography is the best and is a must-read for historians and aficionados regarding wherefores and whys behind the most famous gunfight in the West.
- **3** On the Border With Crook (Captain John G. Bourke, Charles Scribner and Sons): First published in 1892, Bourke's book is written with wit and humor as he colorfully describes life in towns like Tucson, the dreary, miserable living conditions of a soldier on

- the frontier, and the arduous campaigns in the rugged mountains of Arizona and Mexico. On the Border is one of the two best primary sources for life in Arizona during the Apache War period.
- **Q** Vanished Arizona: Recollections of My Army Life (Martha Summerhayes, Lipponcott): Summerhayes' biography, like Bourke's, is a first-person account of life in Arizona during the 1870s-'80s, but from a woman's perspective. Vanished Arizona was first published in 1908, many years after Martha's adventure but her memory of the experience, although somewhat nostalgic, was both vivid and candid.
- **S** The Pleasant Valley War (Jinx Pyle, Git A Rope Publishing): Jinx Pyle has written the most revealing history—including naming the instigator—of the notorious Pleasant Valley War. Also known as the Graham-Tewksbury Feud, it is one of the most complex and vile blood feuds in America's history, in which as many as fifty men died with their boots on. Even the storied Hatfields and McCoys, with 13 dead, can't compare.





Doug Hocking's Mystery of Chaco Canyon, a sequel to his first novel, Massacre at Point of Rocks, takes readers on a mystical adventure through historic locations in the Southwest, including the ruins of Chaco Canyon.

- COURTESY NPS.GOV -

OLD WEST ADVENTURE IN THE LAND OF ENCHANTMENT

If you've been looking for something different in a Western story, Doug Hocking may have the novel for you. Set

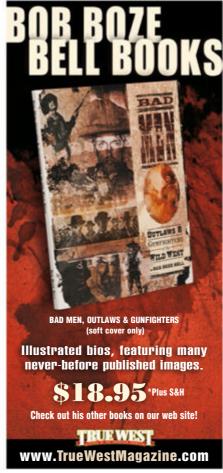


in 1860s New Mexico, Mystery of Chaco Canyon (Buckland Abbey LLC, \$18.95) borrows elements from Indiana Jones, Harry Potter and The Da Vinci Code as it follows four intrepid adventurers on the trail of the Covenant of the Ark, delivered to

the American Southwest by the Knights Templar hundreds of years before Columbus's arrival in the New World. Although not without flaws—the book would have benefited from better editing to correct grammatical mistakes and a sometimes-convoluted storyline—it is at its best when Hocking shares his intimate knowledge of the Southwestern culture and its land.

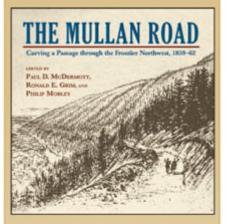
—Michael Zimmer, author of The Poacher's Daughter







EDITED BY PAUL D. McDermott, et. al.



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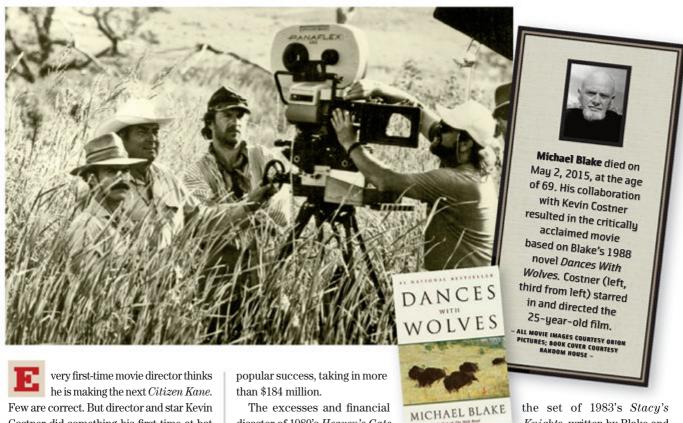


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A Quarter-**Century Tribute**

Paying homage to the recently departed Michael Blake 25 years after the release of his groundbreaking Western, Dances With Wolves.



Few are correct. But director and star Kevin Costner did something his first time at bat that no other freshman filmmaker ever has: his film won seven Oscars.

Dances With Wolves, released 25 years ago, garnered Costner both Best Picture and Best Director awards. The film also won Best Screenplay, Score, Editing, Cinematography and Sound. Aside from these well-deserved awards, Costner did something else remarkable: he made an epic Western that was both a critical and

The excesses and financial disaster of 1980's Heaven's Gate had nearly killed the Western.

Costner proved the genre still had plenty of life and artistic value, and that huge audiences, male and female, would come out to see a good one. Arguably, without the success of Dances With Wolves, we might not have gotten 1992's Unforgiven, 1993's Tombstone or 1994's Wyatt Earp.

Costner's equal partner in this great success was Michael Blake. They met on the set of 1983's Stacy's Knights, written by Blake and starring Costner. The writer

told the actor a story he had been toying with concerning Lt. John Dunbar, an inadvertent Civil War hero assigned by a madman to the farthest fort on the American West frontier. There, he learns about himself through hardship and brutal danger, and learns about the American Indians who have been dismissed as "thieves and beggars." His life is forever changed.

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In 2007, *Dances With Wolves* was selected for preservation in the U.S.'s National Film Registry by the Library of Congress, along with 24 other films, which included the 1957 drama *12 Angry Men* and 1955 musical *Oklahoma!* The scenes of Union Army Lt. John Dunbar (Kevin Costner) with Sioux warrior Kicking Bird (played by Graham Greene, left) and Stands With a Fist (played by Mary McDonnell, below left) are among our favorite movie memories.

Markley authored Dakota Epic, his day-to-day account of being a re-enactor on Dances With

Wolves. He later shouldered a musket in 1991's Son of the Morning Star, 1992's Far and Away and 1993's Gettysburg.

"It really was kind of a family; Kevin and Michael and [producer] Jim Wilson were close friends, and that esprit de corps really rubbed off on everybody. I didn't experience that comradeship, that friendliness, on any other movie sets," Markley says. "There was one where, if you tried to talk to the actors you'd be fired immediately. To have the opposite kind of experience first spoils you for everyone else.

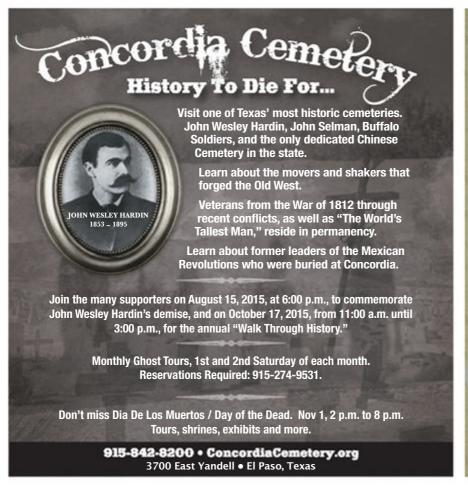
"Michael Blake was a really nice guy. He'd stand with three sweaty, grubby guys to have his picture taken. Blake said he had Kevin in mind when he wrote the book. He was going through a divorce and living out of his car. He'd go over to the Costners's house to take showers when he was writing it."

Daniel Ostroff, who produced 2003's The Missing, was Blake's agent during Dances With Wolves and has been his producing partner in recent years. "Michael was there for about half of the shooting, when he had to come home," Ostroff says. "Kevin had invested his own salary in the movie; he wasn't getting paid. It was costing \$1,000 a week to keep Michael there, and they just couldn't afford it. Kevin was committed to shooting every single word [of the script]. A few months after principal photography, we watched Kevin's first cut. We were blown away-Michael's vision was all there on-screen, and that's 100 percent owing to Kevin."

Blake, who passed away this May, at age 69, not only left *Dances With Wolves* as his legacy, but also other Western stories to come.

We, the audience, have our own special memories of the film: the buffalo hunt, the opening battle, the beautiful South Dakota vistas, Dunbar's romance with Stands With A Fist.

Those lucky enough to have worked on the film will never forget the experience. Bill





One of the most recognized of American Indian actors, Wes Studi, gained lasting fame as Magua in 1992's The Last of the Mohicans, starred as Geronimo in 1993's Geronimo and is currently in the Sundance series The Red Road. Of his chilling role as Toughest Pawnee in Dances With Wolves, Studi reflects, "After 25 years, I readily admit it was the firecracker that got my career started.

"There'd been a feeling, certainly amongst the Indian cast, that this was going to be a breakthrough film. There were a lot of aspects that hadn't been done in a good long while. Like the languages, and that we got inside the head of Graham Greene's character, and Wind In His Hair, and got to see a lot of real life happening in the Lakota camps. There was a feeling that this was going to be a successful film, but certainly not to the extent that it came to be successful."

Studi's most vivid memory of the filming? "Maybe my death scene," he says. "When they all surround me and fire away, and I

roll off the back of the horse-into very cold water. I kid my Lakota friends about how it took that many Sioux to kill one Pawnee-and they all had guns."

Happily, the saga of Lt. Dunbar is not at an end. Ostroff has licensed Dances With Wolves as a Broadway musical. He is also producing Blake's sequel novel, The Holy Road, for

either the large or small screen. Additionally, Blake's script for Winnetou, based on German writer Karl May's Western novels, will be produced by Constantin Film. The Western genre hasn't seen the end of Blake just yet.

DVD REVIEW

In 2011's Yellow Rock, broken man Tom Hanner (Michael Biehn) is hired by

> sinister Max Dietrich (James Russo) to find his brother and nephew, who disappeared trapping near sacred grounds of the Black Paw tribe. Elegantly produced on a tiny budget and inspired by 1990's Dances With Wolves, this twist on 1948's The Treasure of the Sierra Madre focuses on the Indians as much as

the invaders, and features an excellent Indian cast, including Michael Spears, Otter from Dances With Wolves.

Henry C. Parke is a screenwriter based in Los Angeles, California, who blogs about Western movies, TV, radio and print news: HenrysWesternRoundup.Blogspot.com

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Sitting Duck One of the frontier West's leading hotels lands itself in a scandal.



The main dining

hall offered

a beautiful

panoramic view

of the Rocky

Mountains.

n just one short year, the Brown Palace had become one of the leading hotels in the frontier West. Its reputation was such that, in September 1893, a manager bragged about his previous employment in an ad for the new Oriental Hotel in Dallas, Texas, published in The Dallas Morning News: "W.J. Alden...formerly

of the Brown Palace Hotel, Denver."

Guests have been spoiled at the Brown Palace Hotel in Denver, Colorado, since its opening on August 12, 1892. In the early years, the main dining hall, originally at the top of the hotel's eight-story atrium lobby, stretched two stories high and offered a beautiful panoramic view of the Rocky Mountains. Pioneers enjoyed menus as lavish as the hotel itself, featuring dishes such as broiled lake trout with parsley sauce and lamb chops á la Nelson.

Such luxury derived from an Ohio orphan, Henry Cordes Brown. By the 1850s, he had practiced his carpenter's trade in Missouri, California, Washington and Oregon, only to lose his \$50,000 fortune in the panic of 1854. He built up his funds again. In July 1860, when 39-year-old

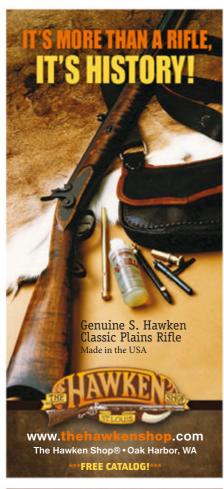
Brown stopped in the twoyear-old Colorado mining town of Denver, he decided to stay. He purchased several acres of land, including a triangular plot at the corners of Broadway, Tremont and 17th Streets.

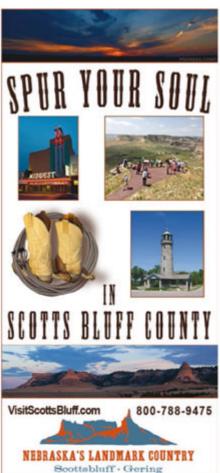
He was forced to sell his house in 1877, due to yet another economic panic, but the enterprising Brown

recovered his fortune by the 1880s. He decided fast-growing Denver needed a grand, "unprecedented" hotel.

Starting in 1888, Brown spared no expense in building his hotel on his triangular plot. For instance, workers dug an artesian well 720 feet beneath the hotel to provide water; the hotel still gets its water from these wells. Brown spent a staggering \$1.6 million on his hotel, in addition to \$400,000 more to furnish it equal to \$53.7 million today.

He may have even been generous in addressing the more base needs of his guests. A tunnel reportedly ran beneath the Brown over to the Navarre building across the street, which could have allowed male guests access to the house of gambling and prostitution.





Being generous with guests landed the hotel in a scandal five years after opening. On October 20, 1897, the Brown Palace offered a variety of ducks on its menu, including teal and mallard. At that time, a duck on a menu indicated a restaurant of high quality.

Yet instead of being applauded for the grand menu, the Brown was fined \$25, equal to \$727 today, and trial costs. A complaint filed by T.S. Swan, game and fish commissioner, stated the hotel illegally possessed duck, which was not in season.

The Brown's attorney, Andrew Gillette, argued, "Sir, the legislature has said the printing on the menu of certain words is prima facie evidence that this hotel had certain game in its larder [storage]. That is absurd.... You and I have often ordered an article of food from a menu and have been told that it was out...the printed words are no proof...."

He went on to argue, less effectively: "Mr. Swan's testimony has proved so far, that there was teal duck in the hotel. It has not proved that...mallard duck [was] in the hotel."

The court determined the menu proved guilt, and the hotel paid the fine.

Relive the glory days of the Brown Palace Hotel by making the shared recipe for a delicious soup that appeared on the hotel's February 15, 1896, menu.

SCOTCH BARLEY BROTH

4 cups chicken or vegetable stock ½ cup barley

Salt and pepper to taste

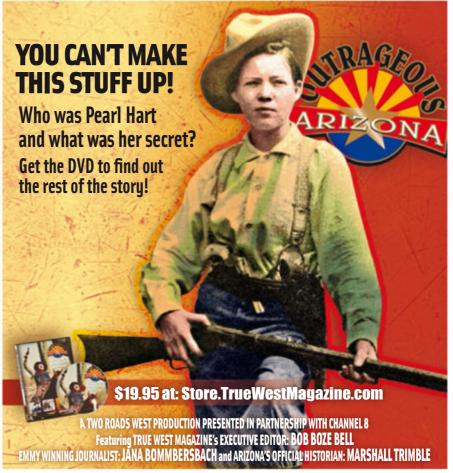
Heat the stock over medium heat in a stockpot. When it begins to boil, add the barley. Reduce the heat, cover and simmer for two hours. Taste and add salt or pepper as needed. Garnish with parsley.

AND COL

Recipe adapted from Washington's Tacoma News, February 13, 1894

Sherry Monahan has penned Mrs. Earp: Wives & Lovers of the Earp Brothers; California Vines, Wines & Pioneers; Taste of Tombstone; The Wicked West and Tombstone's Treasure. She's appeared on the History Channel in Lost Worlds and other shows.







Hooked On Firewater

FFI IX ST. VRAIN SURVIVED SUICIDE MANIA...WITH A LITTLE HELP FROM HIS FRIENDS.



Felix's family knew about his problem, and family members and employees, such as Hiram Vasquez, were charged with watching over Felix while he was traveling or otherwise occupied. "Cantankerous"

was a label Felix wore, and when he was in his cups, he often became violent.

Being on the trail, away from towns and under the watchful eye of Vasquez improved the health of the boy. Accordingly, Felix's family found tasks to keep him moving. Assignments such as flour deliveries and

buffalo hunting filled Felix's days.

THE TEENAGER

HAD SHOT HIMSELF

IN THE CHEST, AND

HE WAS RAVING

AND FLAILING LIKE

A LUNATIC.

Vasquez recorded a crisis in Felix's life during the early 1860s. In Mora, New

> Mexico, Felix, brother Vicente and Vasquez were unloading stores that had arrived on a wagon train. Vasquez and Vicente noticed Felix had slipped away, and they immediately began a search. When they found the youth, he had consumed large quantities of the final run of the Guadalupita distillery and

The teenager had shot himself in the chest, and he was raving and flailing like a lunatic. The two restrained Felix. Vicente created a straightjacket of grain sacks and

A person could sometimes be his own worst enemy when faced with surviving the trials and tribulations of the American frontier. In New Mexico Territory, drinking liquor spiced up with pepper, chili powder or even gunpowder became a popular diversion as early as the 1830s. The potent firewater almost got the best of one influential trader's son.

- COURTESY HERITAGE AUCTIONS, JUNE 16, 2008 -

Born in 1844, Felix was the second son of Ceran St. Vrain, among the most influential traders in the West. Felix was named after

his uncle, an Indian agent killed during the Black Hawk War in 1832.

Despite being raised in a wealthy and influential family, Felix had problems. He was addicted to aguardiente, a generic term for alcoholic beverages that generally rated between 76 and 108 proof. Aguardiente was distilled from sugar cane, beets, millet, potatoes,

rice, manioc, barley and even bamboo. The Spanish terms agua and ardiente translate "water" and "fiery" in English, hence firewater.

used laudanum to calm Felix sufficiently for a doctor to treat the wound.

Vicente realized the wound was no accident. In Felix's pocket, Vicente had found a suicide note that read, "No one is to blame. I die by my own hand."

Felix recovered from his gunshot wound under the watchful eyes of his family. He subsequently attempted to overdose on laudanum, but was saved by Vasquez. Felix tried again to kill himself by trying to grab a straight razor from Vasquez while he was shaving the youth.

On one occasion, Felix snatched Vasquez's pistol and made a desperate threat. If Vasquez would not shoot Felix, then Felix would murder him. Vasquez boldly told the troubled youth to shoot, but Felix did not.

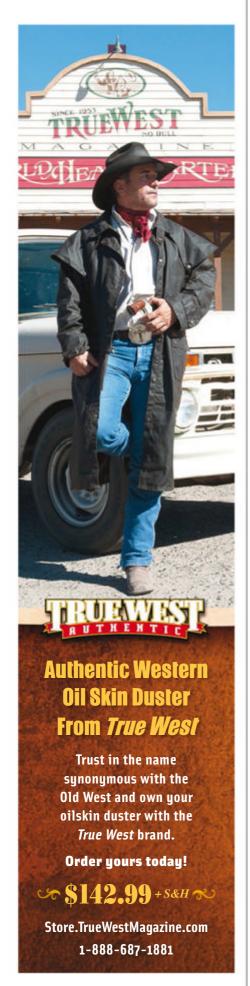
With Vasquez's and the family's care, Felix eventually overcame the demons that

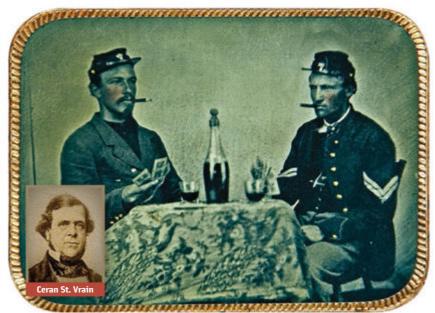
was "crazy, blind-drunk."

HISTORY IN ART BY ILLUSTRATOR ANDY THOMAS

Sitting on a rock inside the abandoned distilleru. Felix St. Vrain is haunted by demons that have risen up after having drunk copious amounts of alcohol. He has laid his cap-and-ball Colt beside him while he contemplates his future.







Ceran St. Vrain (inset) supplied corn whiskey from his distillery in Guadalupita to New Mexico's Fort Union. During the Civil War, officers tried to forbid liquor sales, but whiskey still got in the hands of the New Mexico Volunteers.

-COURTESY HERITAGE AUCTIONS, NOVEMBER 21, 2008 -

haunted him. Felix lived into the early 20th century, a survivor of potential death by his own hand.

Terry A. Del Bene is an archaeologist and freelance writer who worked for many years for the Bureau of Land Management in Wyoming before he retired to Alaska in 2010.



Arizona prospector George Warren (above) let copper riches from Bisbee slip through his fingers due to his addiction to whiskey; he ended up in a Phoenix asylum in 1881.

- TRUE WEST ARCHIVES -



WHISKEY ON THE WOUND

Does the cowboy trick "whiskey on the wound" work? Technically, yes, but you will feel a burn that will give "firewater" new meaning, and you will be killing healthy cells at the same time.

Instead, you should pour clean water on the wound to remove any debris or dirt, so your body can take over the healing process. If you have mild soap on hand, then use that to clean out the wound as well.

If all you have is field water and no other source of disinfectant, pouring liquor on the wound may be your best option. Keep in mind that only higher-proof alcohols work as a disinfectant; whiskey, which is at least 80 proof, fits, while moonshine, usually at least 160 proof, is even better.

In any case, drinking some whiskey may help blunt any pain you feel.

Whatever you do, don't believe the "air it out" theory. You want to keep your wound clean and dry, so be sure to cover it with a bandage or at least wrap a cloth around it.

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Mickey Free S.O.B.

When he was just a boy he started the longest war in U.S. history. Felix Ward's abduction by Apaches when he was about 13, led to the infamous confrontation with Cochise at Apache Pass in 1861 which became known as the Bascom Affair. Felix grew up as an Apache and was renamed Mickey Free by a U.S. soldier. Chief of Scouts Al Sieber said of the boy, "He's half Irish, half Mexican and all son of a bitch."



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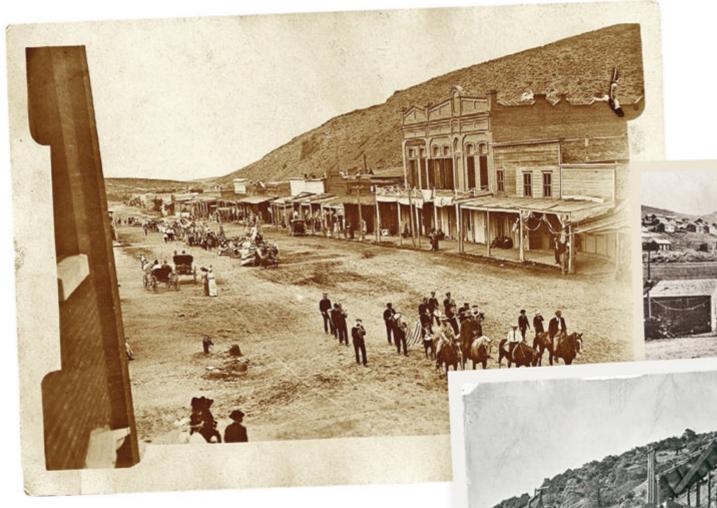
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BY JOHN STANLEY

A Mining Bonanza and Bust

History is alive on the Loneliest Highway in Eureka, Nevada.



Eureka's Fourth of July parade, as seen here in 1913 or 1914, is a long-standing tradition in the historic Nevada mining community.

- COURTESY PAULA PEPER -

ack in the 1980s, *LIFE* magazine quoted an American Automobile Association representative regarding the 260-mile segment of Highway 50 that meanders across central Nevada between Ely and Fallon: "It's totally empty. There are no points of interest. We don't recommend it."

Well...horse feathers.

Eureka, which straddles that lonesome highway some 75 miles west of Ely, is one of the best-preserved old mining towns in Nevada. Dozens of structures built in the 1880s and 1890s are still standing, many of them still in use. Besides that, driving the so-called "loneliest highway in America" is a treat in and of itself—especially for historically minded travelers. "It's a great

In 1871, Eureka's lead mines made the mining district Nevada's second wealthiest behind the Comstock Lode.

BY TIMOTHY O'SULLIVAN, COURTESY NATIONAL ARCHIVES,

"Our remoteness

is one of the blessings of living here."

way to experience the wide open beauty of Nevada," says Andrea Rossman, Eureka's Cultural, Tourism and Economic Development director. "The country looks the same as it did in the 1800s."

Nowadays the town's isolation actually attracts new residents looking for a little peace and quiet, Rossman says. "Our remoteness is one of the blessings of living here."

Silver ore drew the first prospectors to the area in 1864. The town was established in 1865, but didn't really take off until mine operators started building smelters there known as the "Pittsburgh of the West."

While some Old West towns feuded over water rights or fought bloody range wars, the big battle in Eureka was over charcoal, a necessity for

the town's many smelters. In July 1879, around 500 charcoal makers—most of them Italian immigrants—formed the Charcoal Burners Protective Association and tried to raise the price of charcoal from 28 cents

a bushel to 30 cents. Within a month, though, a posse confronted a group of charcoal burners. When the shooting stopped, five charcoal makers lay dead, with several others wounded. Afterwards, smelter operators informed the Association that henceforth the price of charcoal would be 26 cents a bushel.

By 1891, most of the major mines had closed and the population began to dwindle. Ree Taylor, a longtime Eureka resident and the manager of the Sentinel Museum, recommends a self-guided walking tour as the best way to take in the town's history. One of the highlights is

the Sentinel Museum itself, housed in the 1879 *Eureka Sentinel* Newspaper Building. Along with a pressroom filled with original 19th- and early 20th-century equipment, the museum holds information on mining and daily life in the Old West.

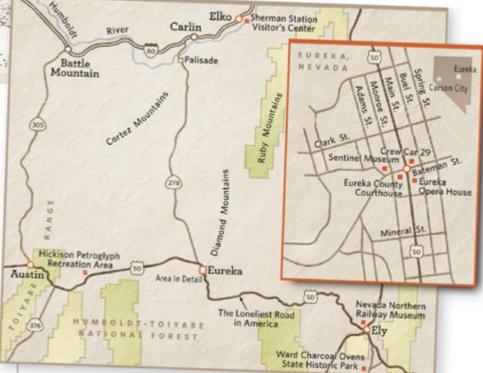
The Eureka Opera House was built in 1880 on the site of the old Odd Fellows Hall, one of many buildings destroyed in the town's great fire of 1879. Originally the Opera House hosted plays, concerts, dances and masquerade balls; later on it became a movie theater. It underwent an extensive renovation in the early 1990s and now serves as the town's Cultural Arts Center.



In 1878, just outside Eureka, the silver mining town of Ruby Hill had over 2,500 residents; by 1900, the town was nearly abandoned.

- COURTESY CONNIE HICKS -

in 1869. By 1878, the town's population approached 10,000 people, making Eureka the second-largest city in Nevada. (Apparently, mining was thirsty work; at one time the town had 125 saloons.) For a while, Eureka became one of the country's largest producers of lead, says Rossman. And its 16 smelters, which could process more than 700 tons of ore a day, belched out so much heavy smoke that the town became









The famed 1880 Eureka Opera House, completely restored in 1993, is the centerpiece of the history-rich community built on silver boom of the 1860s-'70s. The town's residents held a New Year's Eve costume ball for the Opera House debut on December 31, 1880.

- COURTESY DEAN REYNOLDS/EUREKA COUNTY EDP -

Eureka's courthouse was built in 1879, Rossman says. It, too, has been renovated, but in a way that "kept its historical integrity, so it still looks very much the same as it did when it was built." It is one of only two 19th-century Nevada courthouses still in use.

Other points of interest include several historical churches, five cemeteries and Crew Car 29, used on the narrowgauge Eureka & Palisade Railroad, which operated from 1875 to 1938.

John Stanley was a longtime newspaper travel writer and photographer in Arizona.

The historic Eureka Courthouse has served the county since 1876, three years after the town was made the county seat.

- LEE RAINE/COWBOYSHOWCASE.COM -



Visitors to Eureka should start their tour at "Crew Car 29," an information kiosk center on Main Street.

- LEE RAINE/COWBOYSHOWCASE.COM -



The 1879 Eureka Sentinel
Newspaper Building at 10
Monroe Street hosts the
county historical museum,
including an exhibit on the
history of the newspaper,
which operated from
1879–1960.

- LEE RAINE/COWBOYSHOWCASE.COM -



WHERE HISTORY MEETS THE HIGHWAY



EUREKA

Because Eureka is so remote, you'll have to drive a bit farther than usual to reach a few regional attractions, but they're well worth the effort.

Co.Eureka.NV.us



AUSTIN

The rock art at the Hickison Petroglyph Recreation Area clearly shows that people have lived in the area for thousands of years. Austin's old mining town's many historic sites and buildings should not be missed.

AustinNevada.com

ELKO

Start your tour at the Sherman Station Visitor's Center, housed in an authentic 19th-century ranch house and outbuildings—including a barn, a blacksmith shop, a schoolhouse and

creamery building—each of which holds fascinating artifacts from Nevada's pioneer days.

ElkoNevada.com

ELY

Climb aboard the Nevada Northern Railroad (left), touted as the "best preserved historic railroad" in the country, and sit back as a historic steam engine (or perhaps a vintage diesel) takes you back through time.

ElyNevada.net

WARD CHARCOAL OVENS STATE HISTORIC PARK

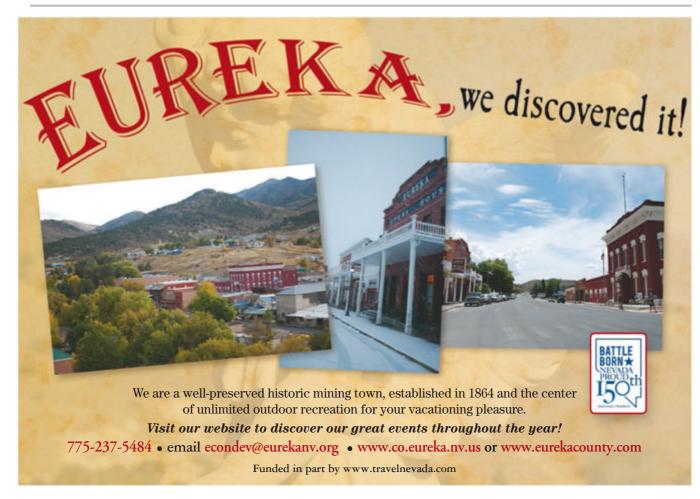
See the distinctive beehive-style ovens used from 1876 to 1879 to make charcoal, a critical resource for the region's many ore smelters.

Parks.NV.gov

WINNEMUCCA

Just three hours northwest from Eureka, via State Highway 278 and I-80, Winnemucca's downtown walking tour and Humboldt Museum are the best way to discover this historic town.

Winnemucca.NV.us



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www.whitewatervalleyrr.org

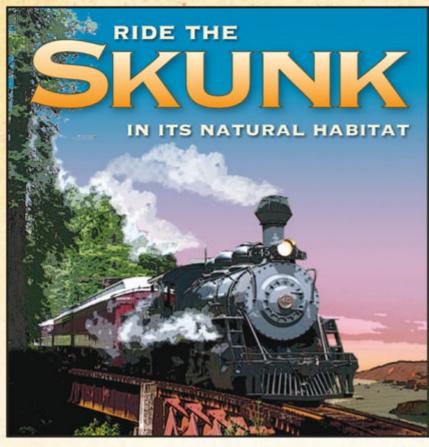
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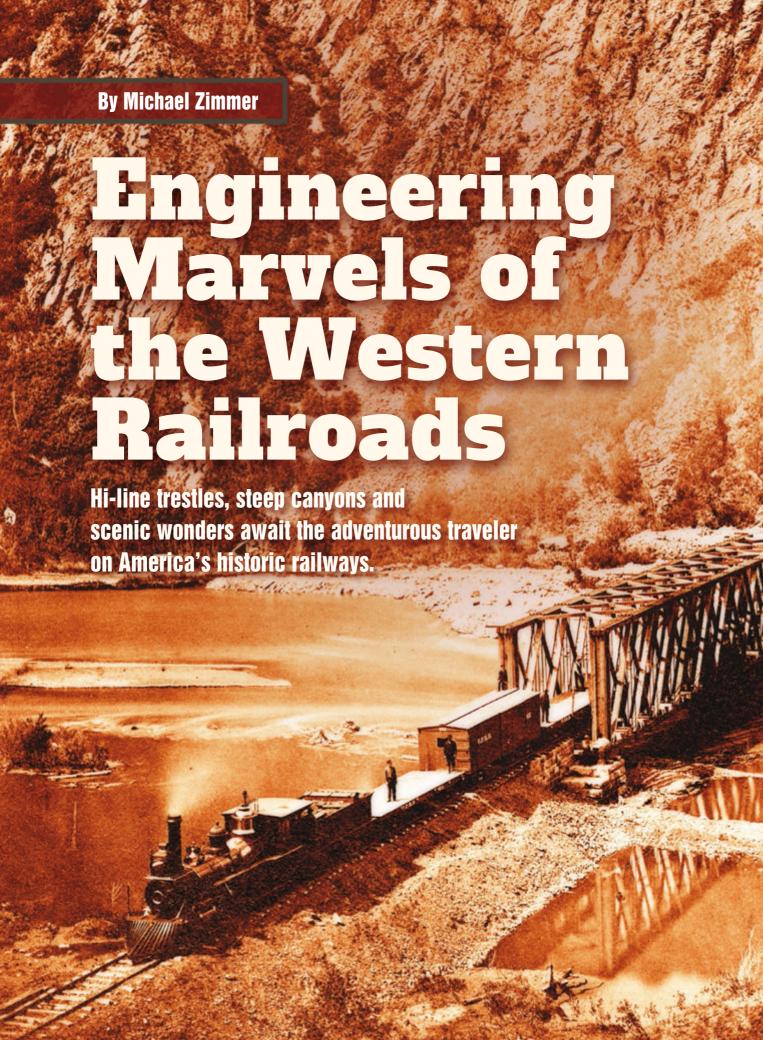


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Summit Tunnel
Donner Pass, CA • 1867

The Sierra Nevada's granite heart was conquered to connect a nation.

Harsh winter snows and solid rock trie

Harsh winter snows and solid rock tried to stop the Central Pacific in its tracks, until engineers found a way to keep the rails moving forward to build Tunnel No. 6, otherwise known as the Summit Tunnel through the Sierra Nevada. Chiseled out inch by inch, and never more than two feet per day, the No. 6 was bored through 1,659 feet of solid granite by Chinese laborers, many of whom lost their lives to accidental explosions, falling rocks and winter avalanches.

Heritage train adventurers to Fort Bragg, California, will enjoy a breathtaking ride through the redwood forests, and across the Noyo River, on the Mendocino Railway's historic Skunk Train, founded in 1885 as a lumber hauler. Nearly 20 years before, Chinese laborers blasted and hammered inch-by-inch through the granite of the Sierra Nevadas to build the Central Pacific's famed Summit Tunnel (inset) above Donner Lake.

- COURTESY SKUNK TRAIN/ALFRED A. HART, LIBRARY OF CONGRESS - Construction began on each end of the tunnel in August of 1866. By the end of the month, engineers ordered a vertical shaft be dug down from the top so crews could work from four faces, rather than two. When the passageway was finally completed in August of 1867, engineers' calculations had been so precise that the four tunnels—two boring inward from east and west, and two

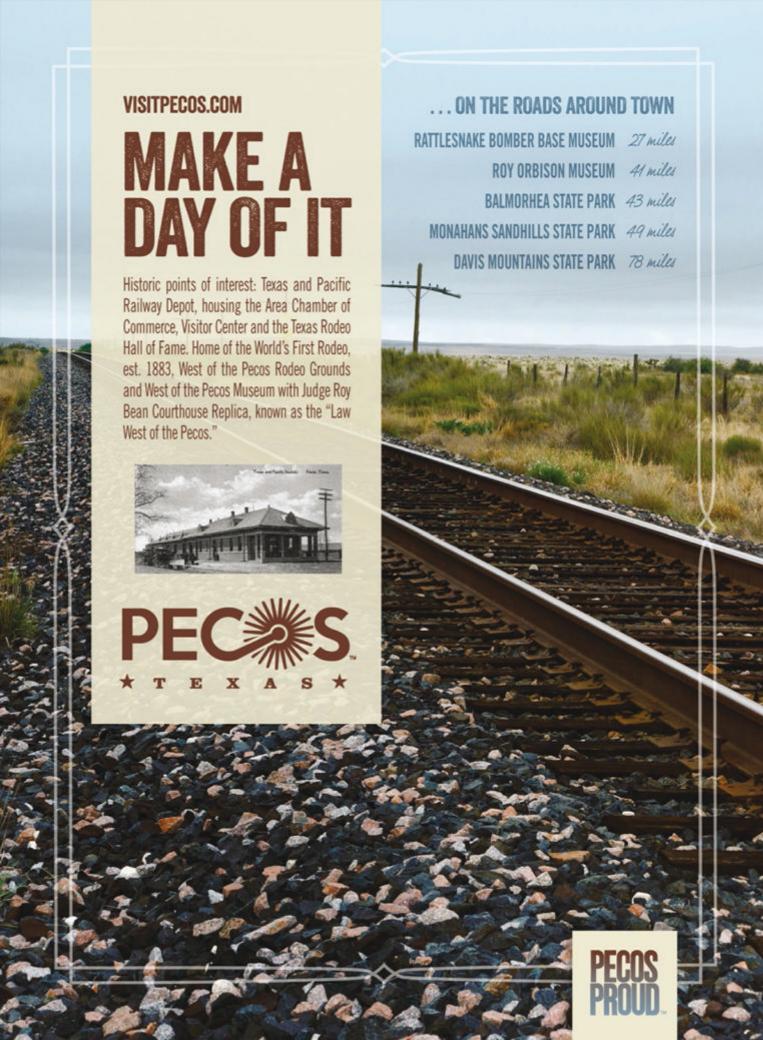
moving outward from the center—were off by less than two inches.



Dale Creek Bridge Laramie Mountains, WY • 1868

The trestle over Dale Creek was both thrilling and terrifying.

The Dale Creek Bridge, just east of Laramie, Wyoming, sat very near the highest elevation along the Union Pacific line—8,247-foot Sherman Pass. Towering more than 15 stories above the stony bed of Dale Creek, the wooden trestle was also the highest bridge on the transcontinental railroad between Omaha and Sacramento. Construction began in December 1867, and the first train crossed on April 23





In 1885, the 650-foot Union Pacific Railroad's Dale Creek Bridge in southeastern Wyoming, first built of wood in 1868, had granite abutments and steel girders added to its 1876 steel frame. The historic 1880 Train in South Dakota's Black Hills welcomes train enthusiasts to take a ride into yesteryear from Hill City.

- WILLIAM HENRY JACKSON/COURTESY J. PAUL GETTY MUSEUM/SOUTH DAKOTA DEPT. OF TOURISM -

of wind, so fierce that we fear the cars may be blown from the track."

Cumbres & Toltec Antonito, CO Chama, NM • 1880

Silver brought the railroad; the Rockies keeps the locomotives running year-round today.

pletion was snow, as much as 40 feet of it per year. The Cumbres & Toltec is the highest operating adhesion railroad in the country, and 19th-century plows and rotaries couldn't stay ahead of the drifts. The answer: snow sheds, strategically located manmade tunnels built to withstand winter's heavy accumulations. The C&T used numerous snow sheds to keep its trains running, including

a large one over its turning wye. Today, more powerful blowers keep the tracks clear for year-round operation, but the remnants of one of the larger snow sheds can still be seen along the C&T route, a reminder of what it once took to keep trains running.

1933 (1931 ask)

Diablo Canyon Flagstaff, AZ • 1882

Railroad engineers bet they could bedazzle Devil's Gorge with a pre-fab bridge—and they lost.

Nearly two decades before Engineer Lewis Kingman faced the challenge of bridging Devil's Canyon, Lt. Amiel Whipple of the Corps of Topographical Engineers, reported "we were all surprised to find at our feet...a chasm probably one hundred feet in depth, the sides pre-

The historic narrow-gauge Cumbres & Toltec Railroad thrills passengers as it crosses deep canyons and traverses high canyon walls between Chama, New Mexico, and Antonito, Colorado. Built in 1880, the Denver & Rio Grande Railroad extension was a key link into the region's rich silver mining district.

- COURTESY RICH GRANT / CUMBRES & TOLTEC RAILROAD -

the following year. Although considered one of the most dangerous bridges on the entire line—trains were forced to creep across the 720-foot-long structure at no more than four miles per hour—it wasn't engineering errors that concerned

1880 Train, SD

crews and passengers, but the prevailing strong winds near the summit that caused the structure to sway noticeably, and could tumble even boxcars into the rocky chasm below. As passenger Ellen White wrote in 1873, the "trestle looks like a light, frail thing to bear so great a weight. But fears are not expressed because of the frail appearance... but in regard to the tempest

Between the 10,015-foot Cumbres Pass and the 800-foot-deep Toltec Gorge, the Cumbres & Toltec faced its fair share of hurdles during construction, despite the fact that railroad president William Jackson Palmer called it "a little railroad, a few hundred miles in length." One of the biggest challenges after com-

Cumbres & Toltec RR, NM

In 1882, railroad engineer Lewis Kingman had the assignment to bridge Canyon Diablo east of Flagstaff, Arizona, an engineering mission that

nearly failed and led to the creation of a notorious railroad camp. Today, the Verde Canyon Railroad carries passengers up the Verde River from Clarkdale in central Arizona.

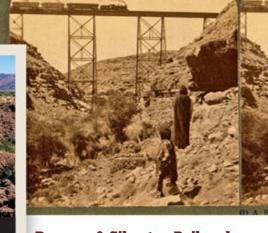
- UNDERWOOD & UNDERWOOD, COURTESY LIBRARY OF CONGRESS/ VERDE CANYON RAILROAD -

cipitous, and about three hundred feet across at the top." Kingman's plan was to have the bridge built off-site for the Atlantic and Pacific Railroad, but the designs were apparently misread, and the preassembled

sections ended up being several feet too short, bringing the railroad to an abrupt halt on the very lip of the gorge. While a new bridge was being constructed in the east, work continued as best it could. Limestone pillars for the bridge's bases were excavated from nearby deposits and chiseled into shape by Italian stonemasons. When the reconstructed bridge was



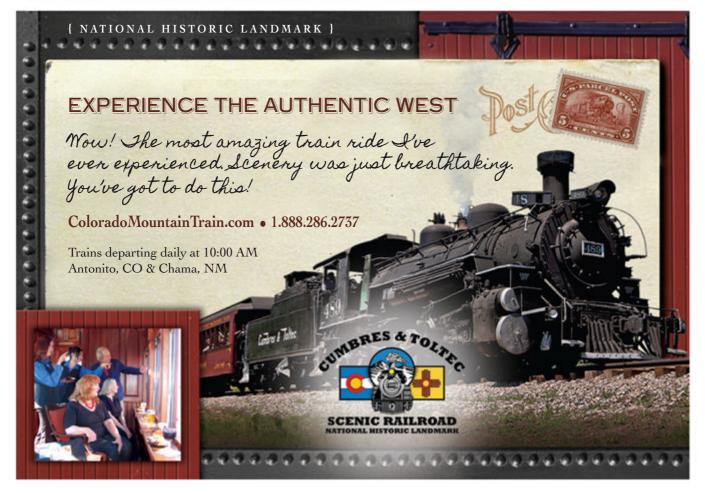
finally delivered and assembled seven months later, the bridge stood 220 feet above the canyon floor and stretched for 544 feet from one side to the other. If not for someone's earlier miscalculation and long delay, the bridge's prefabricated construction might have been a feat to celebrate; sadly, it's doubtful that any champagne was uncorked.



Durango & Silverton Railroad Durango, CO • 1882

The Durango & Silverton Railroad is an engineering wonder 400 feet above the Animas River.

In 1909, George Lawton reflected in the Telegraph Age about the sacrifice of human lives to build rail lines in Colorado. "The expense is great, and the loss of life in blasting through the solid masonry of





The Durango & Silverton Narrow Gauge Railroad transports passengers up the Animas River Canyon between Durango, Colorado, and the historic mining camp in Silverton (inset), just as it has since it was completed in 1882.

- WILLIAM HENRY JACKSON/COURTESY YVONNE LASHMETT, D&SNGRR -

the Rocky Mountains, has left many an unmarked and unknown grave." When it comes to feats of engineering, it's pretty hard to top the Denver and Rio Grande's line

from Durango to Silverton, in southwestern Colorado. It's a 45-mile climb up Animas Canyon, and the route often seems as if it's been carved straight from the face of the cliff, which in numerous places it was. Many men lost their lives falling into the canyon below. The Durango & Silverton

was an extension of the Cumbres & Toltec Railroad, out of Antonito, Colorado, built to haul silver and other precious metals out of the San Juan Mountains. The raw ore was then delivered to smelters in Durango, founded in August of 1881 by the D&RG as a railroad terminus. Despite the San Juans'

Durango & Silverton RR. CO

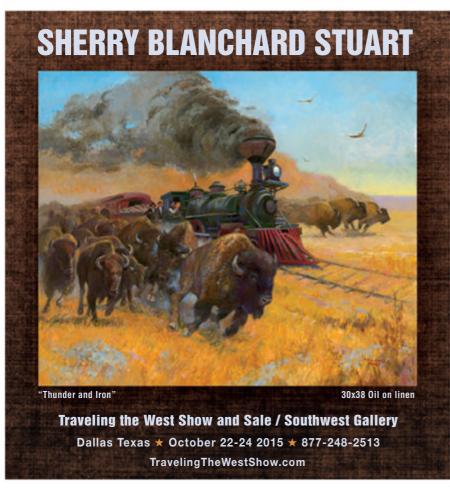
rugged terrain, the Durango & Silverton extension was completed in a scant 11 months, and a train has been rolling over those rails ever since.

...

Georgetown Loop Georgetown, CO • 1884

The Colorado Central Railroad had just two miles to scale 640 feet.

Skeptics said it couldn't be done; Union Pacific's Jay Gould said it could. In the early 1880s, the race was on for the silver-rich mines surrounding Leadville, Colorado. The first railroad into town was almost guaranteed huge profits, and Jay Gould, of Union Pacific





The Central Colorado Railroad operated trains from Georgetown to Silver Plume from 1884 to 1938. Today, the historic Georgetown Loop Railroad, rebuilt between 1969 and 1987, shuttles riders across spectacular canyons.

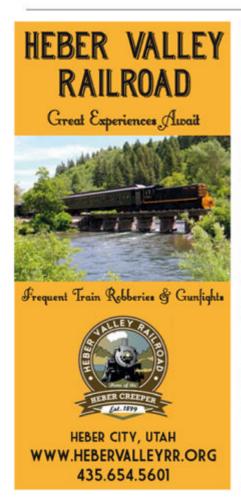
- COURTESY KYLE BANISTER, GEORGETOWN LOOP RAILROAD

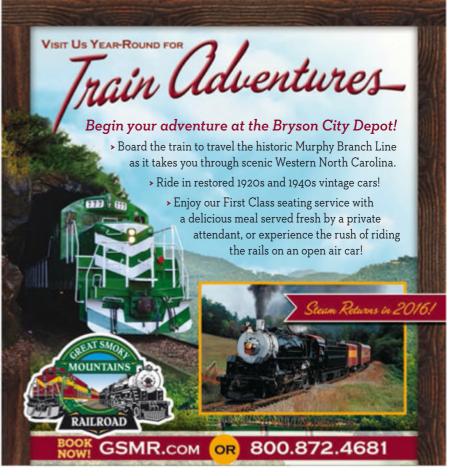
fame, wanted in. He'd already helped finance the Colorado Central Railroad from Denver to Georgetown, but to reach Leadville, he was going to have to push even deeper into Colorado's high country. Gould's first obstacle stood just outside of Georgetown, the two-mile stretch of canyon to Silver Plume. Although practically next door, Silver Plume rose nearly 640 feet higher in elevation, requiring grades far too steep for traditional rail traffic. Gould brought in Jacob Blickensderfer, his chief engineer from the UP. Blickensderfer's



proposals were a series of deep cuts, dirt fills, sharps turns, and, the star of the line, the Georgetown Loop. It took four and a half miles of track to span those two miles, plus the trestle that made Georgetown famous, towering 95 feet off the ground before curving back toward

the Divide. The result? The Denver and Rio Grande reached Leadville while the Colorado Central was still struggling up the canyon past Silver Plume. With the grand prize snagged by the competition, Gould pulled out, and the rails ended abruptly just west of Silver Plume.





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Grand Canyon Railway Williams, AZ • The Train.com

Verde Canyon Railroad Clarkdale, AZ • VerdeCanyonRR.com

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Skunk Train Fort Bragg, CA • SkunkTrain.org

Trains & Travel International Portola, CA • TrainTrips.biz

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> **Sumpter Valley Railroad** Baker City, OR

SumpterValleyRailroad.org Chelatchie Prairie Railroad

Chelatchie, WA • BYCX.com

Lake Whatcom Railway, Wickhersham, WA LakeWhatcomRailwav.com

Mount Rainier Scenic Railroad & Museum Elbe, WA • MRSR.com

Thunder Mountain Line, Horseshoe Bend, ID • ThunderMountainLine.com

> **Nevada Northern Railway** Ely, NV • NNRY.com

Virginia & Truckee Railroad Virginia City, NV • Virginia Truckee.com

Heber Valley Railroad, Heber City, UT • HeberVallevRR.org

> **Kettle Valley Steam Railway** Summerland, B.C., Canada KettleValleyRail.org



Passengers on the Grapevine Vintage Railroad, the historic line between Grapevine, Texas, and the Fort Worth Stockyards enjoy "train robberies" every weekend between Memorial Dau and Labor Dau.

- COURTESY GRAPEVINE VINTAGE RAILROAD -

Pecos River Viaduct Langtry, TX · 1892

Langtry, Texas, is Judge Roy Bean country; that made it handy when a coroner was needed for construction accidents.

Texas author J. Frank Dobie wrote that "the lower reaches of the Pecos canyon have been cut through solid rock and are deep and impassable." And impossible is just the kind of challenge American railroad engineers had to overcome when they built the Pecos River Viaduct in 1892. Known today as the High Bridge, the second rail trestle to span the Pecos River was 321 feet above the distant river below, and for a while, the highest bridge in the United States, and the third highest in the world. Being 2,180 feet from one rim to the other, it was no slouch in length, either. It was made of steel, more than 1,800 tons of the stuff, but by the end of the 19th century, most railroad trestles were. The viaduct was constructed by the Southern Pacific to avoid the longer route

Great Northern Railway tycoon James J. Hill would not let the Cascades delay railroad construction, so he ordered his engineer, John Stevens, to build switchbacks over Stevens Pass, Washington, in 1893.

- A.B. WILSE/COURTESY LIBRARY OF CONGRESS -

that hugged the Rio Grande to a crossing built in 1883. Although intimidating in size, the higher bridge shaved 11 miles and quite a few hours off the original route.

Stevens Pass Skykomish, WA · 1893

Engineers' amazing switchbacks lifted the Great Northern over the Cascades.

Legend has it that Great Northern Railroad's CEO James J Hill boasted, "Give me snuff, whiskey and Swedes, and I will build a railroad to hell." Hill's switchbacks over the Cascade Mountains are a perfect example of that. Hill knew he'd eventually



Rocky Mountains, High Plains & Texas

Cumbres & Toltec Railroad
Antonito, CO and Chama, NM
CumbresToltec.com

Durango and Silverton Durango, CO • *DurangoTrain.com*

Georgetown Loop Railroad Georgetown, CO

GeorgetownLoopRR.com

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Royal Gorge Route Railroad, CO RoyalGorgeRoute.com

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> 1880 Train, Hill City, SD 1880Train.com

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Texas State Railroad
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Midwest & South

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Lake Superior and Mississippi Railroad Duluth, MN • *LSMRR.org*

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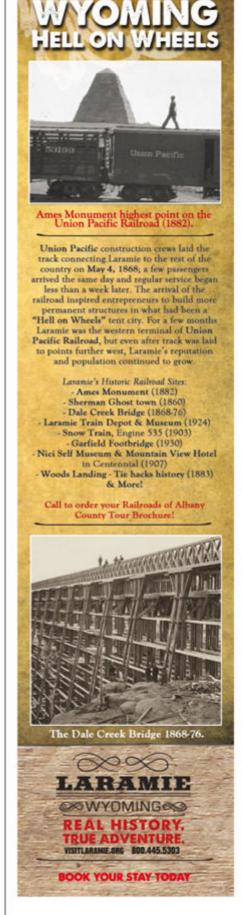
Cuyahoga Valley Railroad Peninsula, OH • CSVR.com

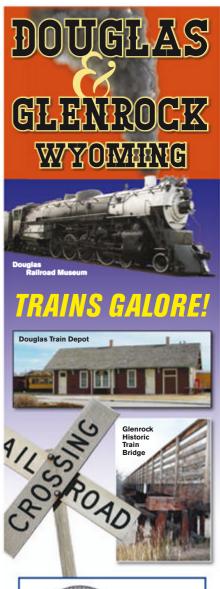
Lumber Jack Steam Train
Laona, WI • Camp5Museum.org

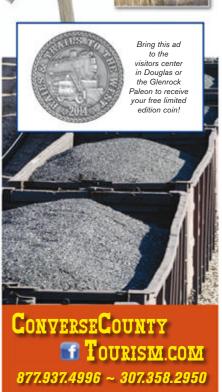
Abilene and Smoky Valley Railroad
Abilene, KS • ASVRR.org

Great Smoky Mountains Railroad Bryson City, NC • GSMR.com

Tennessee Valley Railroad
Chattanooga, TN • ChattanoogaFun.com









have to bore a passage under Stevens Pass, but tunnels take time, and Hill wanted to complete his railroad to Seattle as quickly as possible. The answer was a temporary route over 4,059-foot Stevens Pass that included 12 miles of switchbacks. In order to make the climb, trains had to be shortened to 1,000 feet in length. At each switchback, the line of cars would pull forward onto a stub, a workman would throw a switch, and the train would move backward to the next stub, continuing this zigzag pattern all the way over the top. Switchbacks were used until 1900, when the first tunnel was completed. Time saved: approximately two hours.

Lucin Cutoff Ogden, UT • 1904

In 1869, the Southern Pacific shied away from the Great Salt Lake; in 1902, they tackled it head on.

By the turn of the 19th century, traffic over the old transcontinental rail line north of the Great Salt Lake had reached capacity, and engineers were looking for a solution. William Hood, the Southern Pacific's chief engineer, thought he had it—build a route straight across the

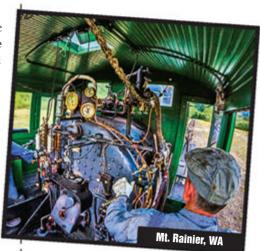
Engineers drive Mt. Rainier Scenic Railroad's historic locomotive No. 70, a Baldwin 70-ton built in 1922 for the logging industry.

> - COURTESY JEREMY ECHOLS/ MT. RAINER SCENIC RAILROAD & MUSEUM -

The Lucin Cutoff across the Great Salt Lake shortened the original transcontinental rail line, while the Jupiter (above) thrills visitors to the Golden Spike National Historic Site in Promontory Summit, Utah.

Lake to the west desert town of Lucin, Utah. It was a monumental task, requiring the use of 25 massive pile drivers, nearly 1,000 dump cars, 80 locomotives, and 3,000 laborers to finish the 102 miles of track. In places, the lake bed was so hard, steam jets were needed to blast out a pocket for a trestle's base; elsewhere, mud reached depths of 50-plus feet, and fill dirt for the rail bed would often just sink from sight. But by the time the line was finished, 44 miles and 700 feet of grade had been shaved off the old route, saving the SP 20 hours and up to \$60,000 per month.

Michael Zimmer is the author of fourteen novels, including *The Poacher's Daughter*, winner of the 2015 Wrangler Award, and *City of Rocks*, a Booklist Top Ten Western for 2012



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Southern Arizona Transportation Museum, Tucson, AZ • TucsonHistoricDepot.com

California State Railroad Museum, Sacramento, CA • CSRMF.org

Railtown 1897 State Historic Park, Jamestown, CA • Railtown 1897.org

Tehachapi Depot Railroad Museum, Tehachapi, CA • Tehachapi Depot.org

Western American Railroad MuseumBarstow, CA • BarstowRailMuseum.org

Oregon Rail Heritage Foundation, Portland, OR • ORHS.org

Dayton Historic Depot, Dayton, WA • DaytonHistoricDepot.org

Mt. Rainier Scenic Railroad and Museum, Elbe, WA • MRSR.com

East Ely Railroad Depot Museum, Ely, NV • GreatBasinHeritage.org

Nevada State Railroad Museum, Carson City, NV • NSRM-Friends.org

Golden Spike NHS, Brigham City, UT • NPS.gov

Utah State Railroad Museum, Ogden, UT • The Union Station.org

Fort Steele Heritage Town, Fort Steele, BC, CANADA • Fort Steele.ca

Rocky Mountains, High Plains and Texas

Colorado Railroad Museum, Golden, CO • Colorado Railroad Museum.org

Pueblo Railway Museum, Pueblo, CO • Pueblo Railway.org

Livingston Depot Center, Livingston, MT • LivingstonDepot.org

North Dakota State Railroad Museum, Mandan, ND • NDSRM.org

South Dakota State Railroad Museum, Hill City, SD • SRSRM.org

Railroad Museum, Douglas, WY • ConverseCountyTourism.com

Amarillo Railroad Museum, Amarillo, TX • AmarilloRailMuseum.com

Austin Steam Train Association, Cedar Park, TX • AustinSteamTrain.org

Galveston Railroad Museum, Galveston, TX • GalvestonMuseum.com

Texas Transportation Museum, San Antonio, TX • *TXTransportationMuseum.org*

Museum of the American Railroad, Frisco, TX • *MuseumoftheAmericanRailroad.org*

Cheyenne Depot Museum, Cheyenne, WY • CheyenneDepotMuseum.org

Douglas Railroad Interpretive Center, Douglas, WY • ConverseCountyTourism.com

Laramie Historic Railroad Depot, Laramie, WY • *LaramieDepot.org*

Midwest and South

James H. Andrew Railroad Museum & History Center, Boone, IA • Scenic-ValleyRR.com

Union Pacific Railroad Museum, Council Bluffs, IA • UPRRMuseum.org

Great Overland Station, Topeka, KS • *GreatOverlandStation.org*

Lake Superior Railroad Museum, Duluth, MN • SRM.org

Minnesota Transportati on Museum, St. Paul, MN • MTMuseum.org

The St. Louis Museum of Transportation

St. Louis, M0 • *TransportMuseumAssociation.org*

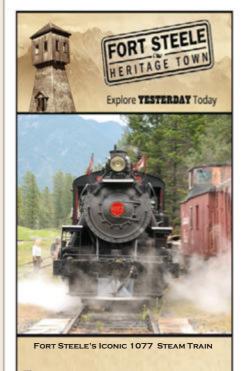
The Durham Museum, Omaha, NE • Durham Museum.org

Golden Spike Tower & Visitors Center, North Platte, NE • *Golden Spike Tower.com*

Tennessee Valley Railroad, Chattanooga, TN • *TVRail.com*

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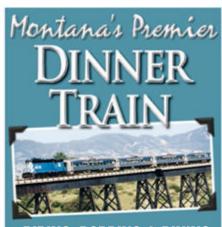
Mid-Continent Railway Museum, North Freedom, WI • MidContinent.org



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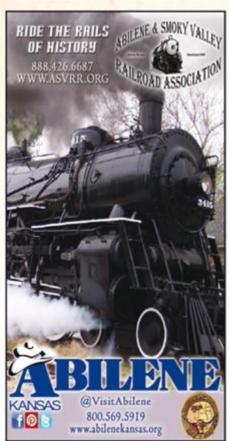
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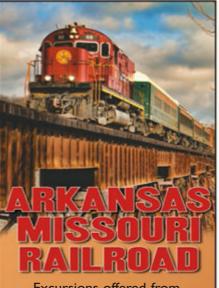
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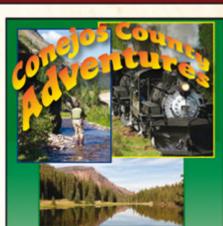




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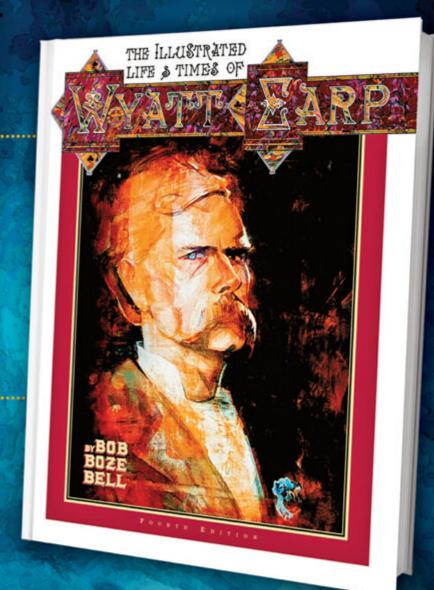
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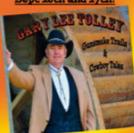
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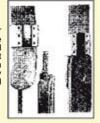
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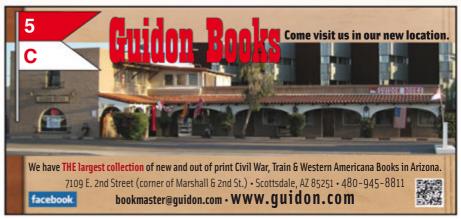
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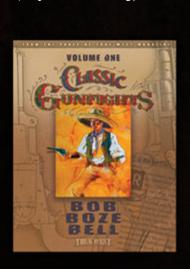
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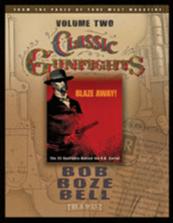
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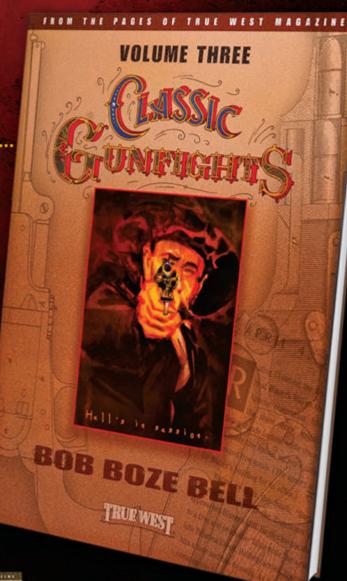
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ADVENTURE

EMPIRE AND LIBERTY: THE CIVIL WAR AND THE WEST

Lost Angeles, CA, August 1-30: Museum exhibition explores the causes and legacies of the American Civil War and its impact on Westward Expansion. 323-667-2000 • CivilWar.TheAutry.org

ART SHOW

THE COLORADO RIVER BASIN BY PETE MCBRIDE

Corning, NY, Opens Aug. 14: A display of photographs taken by Pete McBride to raise awareness for the ecology of the Colorado River. 607-937-5386 • RockwellMuseum.org

HERITAGE FESTIVALS

EUREKA COUNTY FAIR

Eureka, NV, August 6-9: Enjoy carnival rides, livestock shows, a chili cook-off, bronc and bull riding, and much more at this county fair. 775-237-6026 • Co.Eureka.NV.US

KOOL-AID DAYS FESTIVAL

Hastings, NE, August 7-9: Celebrate the 1927 invention of Nebraska's official soft drink and see the world's largest Kool-Aid stand. 402-461-8405 • Kool-AidDays.com

UMATILLA COUNTY FAIR

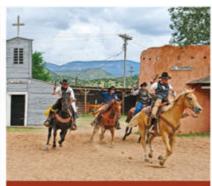
Umatilla, OR, August 11-15: Since 1912, this fair hosts families and residents of Umatilla County in a celebration of their Western heritage. 541-567-6121 • Co.Umatilla.OR.US

JOHN WESLEY HARDIN SECRET SOCIETY

El Paso, TX, August 16: John Wesley Hardin's death in 1895 is re-enacted at historic Concorida Cemetery where the gunfighter is buried. 915-842-8200 • ConcordiaCemetery.org

BOZEMAN TRAIL COMMEMORATIVE CHUCKWAGON COOK-OFF

Virginia City, MT, August 28-30: Celebrate the anniversary of the first wagon train that arrived in Virginia City on the Bozeman Trail. 406-579-2477 • VirginiaCity.com



THE LAST ESCAPE OF BILLY THE KID

Lincoln, NM, August 7-9:
Watch history re-enactments of
the notorious Lincoln County War,
including the "last escape of Billy the
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BilluTheKidPageant.org



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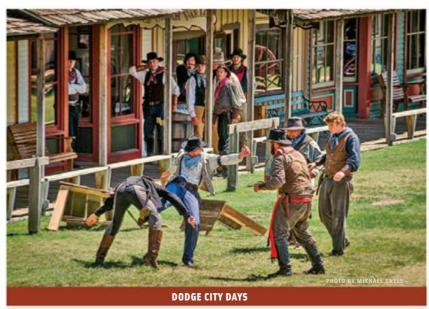


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Dodge City, KS, July 24-August 2: This celebration of the cowboy lifestyle includes history re-enactments, a PRCA rodeo, a cattle drive and a Western art show. $620\text{-}227\text{-}3119 \bullet DodgeCityDays.com$

ELKO COUNTY FAIR

Elko, NV, Opens Aug. 29: Elko County residents pay tribute to their pioneer heritage with livestock shows and horse races. $775-738-3616 \bullet ElkoCountyFair.com$

MUSIC & POETRY

ARIZONA COWBOY POETS GATHERING

Prescott, AZ, August 6-8: Don Edwards, Belinda Gail, Trinity Seeley and more performers bring their songs and poetry to the stage. $928-713-6323 \bullet AZCowboyPoets.org$

MONTANA COWBOY POETRY GATHERING

Lewistown, MT, August 13-16: Hear Red Steagall, Dave Stamey and others' cowboy poems, plus enjoy an art show, Western dance and a BBQ.

Montana Cowbou Poetru Gatherina.com

WESTERN LEGENDS ROUNDUP

Kanab, UT, August 27-29: This tribute to Western films and cowboy heritage

BUGBEE'S BIRTHDAY

Canyon, TX, August 15: This tribute to the life of Western artist Harold Dow Bugbee features displays of his artwork, as well as a scavenger hunt for objects in the Panhandle-Plains Historical Museum's recreation of Bugbee's studio. Shown here is Bugbee's Jack Ritchie. 806-651-2242

PanhandlePlains.org

features appearances by 1960s TV star Don Collier and stuntman Neil Summers. $435\text{-}644\text{-}3444 \bullet \textit{WesternLegendsRoundup.com}$

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SHOSHONE-BANNOCK FESTIVAL

Fort Hall, ID, August 6-9: The powwow, games, parade and feast are all hosted at a reservation established by the 1868 Fort Bridger treaty. 208-339-6996 • ShoshoneBannockTribes.com

RODEOS

MAVERICK RANCH RODEO

Cimarron, NM, August 2: This WRCA-sanctioned rodeo features wild cow milking, roping, barrel racing, bull riding and a wild horse race. 888-376-2417 • CimarronNM.com





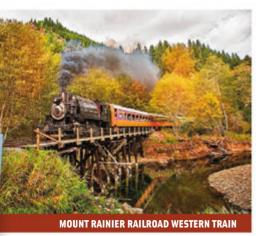
Las Vegas, NM, August 1-9: Now in its 100th year, this reunion will celebrate Old West history and cowboy culture with a rodeo, live music and poetry, and cowboy dances. 505-366-1960 • LVCowboyReunion.com

DODGE CITY ROUNDUP RODEO

Dodge City, KS, July 29-August 2: This PRCA rodeo features saddle bronc, bull riding, calf roping, steer wrestling and barrel racing. 620-225-2244 • DodgeCityRoundup.org

WORLD'S OLDEST CONTINUOUS RODEO

Payson, AZ, August 20-22: This 1884 rodeo, which claims to be the world's oldest, features rodeo competitions that benefit Rim Country charities. 928-474-9440 • PaysonProRodeo.com



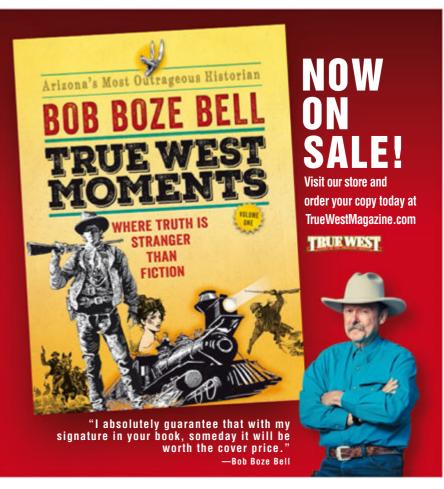
Mineral, WA, August 15: Cowboys and cowgirls step into the pioneer past aboard a steam train reminiscent of the Old West as they travel through the Mount Rainier forest and foothills. 360-569-7959 • MRSR.com

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Jun-2012 Wyatt on the Set



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Marshall Trimble is Arizona's official state historian and the vice president of the Wild West History Association. His latest book is Arizona's Outlaws and Lawmen. If you have a question, write:

Ask the Marshall, P.O. Box 8008, Cave Creek, AZ 85327 or e-mail him at marshall.trimble@scottsdalecc.edu

Cattle Rustlah?

Did any notable Old West outlaws or lawmen come from the East?

Mike Scott

Saugus, Massachusetts

I checked Bill O'Neal's *Encyclopedia of Western Gunfighters*. Here are a few:

New Mexico cattle rustler John
Kinney was from Massachusetts.
Lincoln County, New Mexico, warrior
Dick Brewer was from St. Albans,
Vermont. Rustler and robber George
"Flatnose" Curry was born in West Point
on Prince Edward Island in Canada.
Lawman Jeff Milton was a Florida boy.
Harry Longabaugh, "Sundance Kid,"
was born in Mont Clare, Pennsylvania.
Bat Masterson was from Henryville in
today's Quebec, Canada.

"Mysterious" Dave Mather and Henry Plummer both came from Connecticut. Marshall "Bear River" Tom Smith, Sheriff Harry Morse and William "Billy the Kid" McCarty came from New York City (although recent research by Frederick Nolan suggests the Kid may have been born in Utica, New York). That's just a few of the many more Easterners who found fame out in the frontier West.

Did anyone survive the fall of the Alamo in San Antonio, Texas?

Roger Gary

Onalaska, Washington

Approximately 20 noncombatants—women and children and slaves—were

In 1893, William James Cannon (right) wrote Texas Gov. James Hogg about surviving the Alamo so he could claim land in Texas; he also claimed to have fought in the Mexican-American War. But a granddaughter of Alamo survivor Susanna Dickinson denounced Cannon as a "colossal fraud."

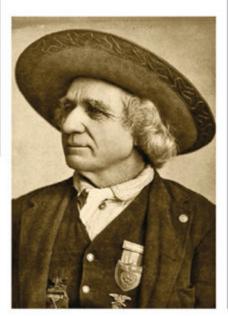
- TRUE WEST ARCHIVES -

spared by Mexican Gen. Antonio López de Santa Anna after the 1836 battle was over. I counted 44 people who left the Alamo Mission before the final attack, including a dozen couriers, scouts or recruiters who went out to find reinforcements. The most famous survivor was Louis "Moses" Rose, the one man who declined to step over the line drawn in the sand by commander William Barrett Travis. Rose left the compound on March 3 and lived until 1851.

Where is lawman Dallas Stoudenmire buried?

John "Arizona" Crawley Salem, Oregon

Dallas Stoudenmire was gunned down by "Doc" and Frank Manning on September 18, 1882, in El Paso. The funeral was held in that Texas city. His wife, with financial assistance from the El Paso Masonic Society, had him shipped to Columbus for burial. The Masons paid for the funeral—and bought him a \$15 suit.



Was Wyatt Earp a faster draw than Bat Masterson?

James Patrick Gaines Orangevale, California

A faster draw wasn't necessarily as important as we see in the Westerns.

Fast draw expert Jim Dunham says, "Fast draw holsters did not exist in the Old West days, and the rule was to put every advantage on your side. Even in the 1865 Wild Bill Hickok-Davis Tutt gunfight, speed was much less important to deliberation and accuracy.

"Wyatt Earp supposedly said, 'The most important thing to do in a gunfight is take your time...in a hurry.' Direct the writer to Joe Rosa's fine book *The Gunfighter: Man or Myth?*"

Who knows who was better or faster? Earp and Bat Masterson never went up against each other, or, as far as we know, dueled in a fast draw contest.

We do know Earp participated in several gunfights that left more than a half-dozen men dead.

Masterson probably left a couple dead men in his wake. When put in difficult situations, Earp and Masterson were both deadly—and apparently fast enough to make their bullets count.

Why do some rifles have two triggers?

Nick Chilton Marion, Ohio

Double set triggers were used on rifles that ranged from Sharps to Winchesters. One set the trigger, and the other—designed for a light pull to improve accuracy—fired the weapon. Buffalo hunters of the 19th century preferred the double trigger setup because of its accuracy.

The cost for such a weapon was high: \$33 Sharps Sporting Rifle in the 1870s could end up costing \$100 with extras, including special sights and double set triggers. For more, read Phil Spangenberger's "Shooting From the Hip" in the June 2014 issue of *True West*.

In the 1950 Western Sierra, Audie Murphy shoots a rattlesnake bite on a victim's arm with his pistol to get the poison out. Any basis to this, or is it pure Hollywood?

Chris D. Hood Sandpoint, Idaho

Hollywood usually followed folk medicine, which often did more harm than good.

One folk treatment called for a tourniquet to be set above the rattlesnake bite and an "X" cut over the wound so somebody could suck out the poison. Another cauterized the bite with a hot iron or by pouring gunpowder on the bite and lighting it.

One of the strangest remedies I have run across suggested killing the snake, cutting off the fleshy part of the body and placing it against the wound; the venom, apparently, had more affinity for the snake than the human and would return to the snake.

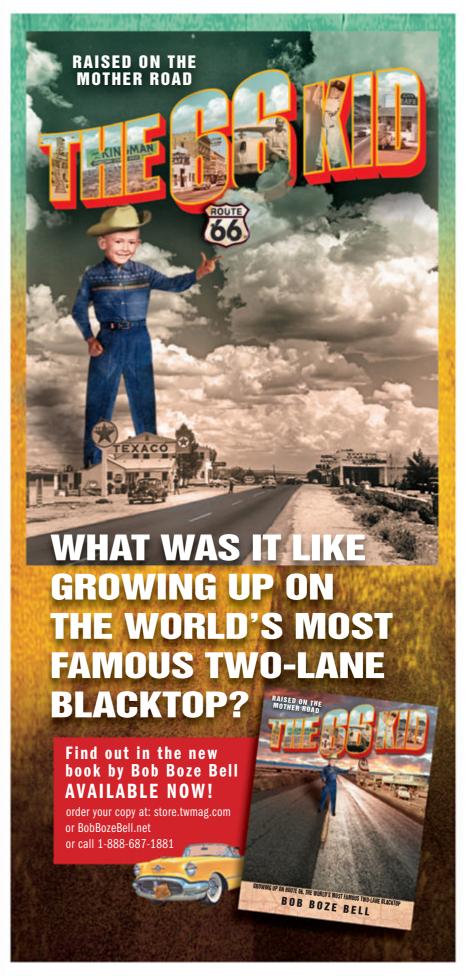
The best advice: Don't try any of these movie remedies at home.

If you're bitten by a rattler, don't panic. Oftentimes it's a dry bite that doesn't have any venom. Get medical care as quickly as you can. While waiting for help, lie as still as possible to keep your heart from beating fast and circulating the poison through your body.



Audie Murphy, star of 1950's *Sierra*, frightened Kenneth Tobey when the actor discovered Murphy kept a live rattlesnake in his car.

- COURTESY UNIVERSAL PICTURES -





If I had been a member of the Corps of Discovery, I would have brought my own vial of smallpox vaccine. Meriwether Lewis's supply lost its potency and was therefore useless. Had this not happened, he might have protected some native peoples against the epidemic of 1837-38.

The history of smallpox in early America is horrific. I know that some have questioned the wisdom of eradicating a species—the smallpox virus—from the planet. But I, for one, am heartily glad for it. (To be clear, stocks of the virus still do exist, but the disease itself has been eradicated.)

If Lewis and Clark visited ancient Mandan settlements today, they'd find some swept away by the Missouri, some ground into gravel for road building and some still standing in testimony to a people whose history is much older than that of the U.S.

A Western historian everyone should read is Elliott West. He's the best there is.

George Catlin's artwork is intriguing and beautiful, but problematic. He had some out-there ideas about American Indians, and he sometimes played fast and loose with the facts.

I was part of that first generation of girls to benefit from Title IX. I played every sport I could, shifting with the season—field hockey in the fall, basketball in the winter, softball in the spring and summer. My dad was fabulous about encouraging me.

Dropping out of graduate school gave me space to explore. I learned to fix cars, and I read whatever I wanted to read.

Working as an auto mechanic taught me to own my mistakes. When an exhaust manifold bolt snaps off in a cylinder head, all you can do is fix it and move on.

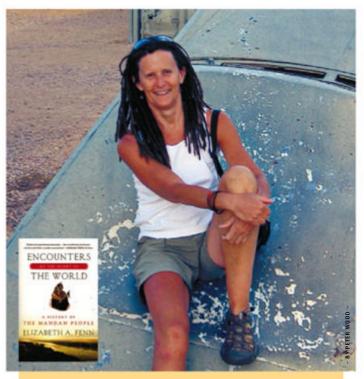
The best part of being a historian is research. Research is like time travel. We immerse ourselves in evidence left behind by our predecessors, and we try to make sense of their world.

My earliest interest in history began at Duke in 1979, when Nazis killed five Communist Workers' Party demonstrators during the Greensboro Massacre. The Klansmen were acquitted, which blew my mind. How did we get here?

While researching Encounters at the Heart of the World, I learned patience and humility. As my Mandan friend Cedric Red Feather taught me about the Okipa ceremony, my ego and



To keep a clear head during her senior year at Duke University, Elizabeth Fenn lived in a tipi, which had a wood floor, a wood stove and bookshelves.



ELIZABETH FENN, PULITZER PRIZE-WINNING HISTORIAN

"Winning the Pulitzer is like a bolt of lightning out of the clear blue sky," says Elizabeth Fenn, who received the Pulitzer Prize in History this year for *Encounters at the Heart of the World*, which analyzes Mandan history from 1100 to 1845. She has a Ph.D. from Yale University, and she is the History Department Chair at University of Colorado in Boulder. Her field of study is the early American West, focusing on epidemic disease, American Indians and environmental history. She is married to historian Peter Wood.

impatience hindered my understanding. Not until six months before I submitted the final manuscript did I grasp what Cedric meant. Thus, *Encounters* took a long time to write. But time made it better.

People would be surprised to know Mandan women sometimes sang to their gardens to help their corn stay happy and grow.

If I wasn't a historian, I'd be a welder or a fiction writer, an engineer or a massage therapist, an actor or a race car driver, or maybe a high school coach.

My favorite fiction author is the French writer Jean Giono. He penned *The Horseman on the Roof*, about a nobleman's journey home during a cholera epidemic.

The freedom of the mountains is overrated. I'm a huge fan of the Great Plains, home of the Mandans, among other tribes, and of Carhenge (see photo of me at the vintage automobile site in Nebraska).

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